

Top 20 Dive Resorts • The Keys: Florida's Golden Chain
Technical Revolution: Danger Ahead? • Idyllic Fiji

SCUBA

TIMES

THE ACTIVE DIVER'S MAGAZINE



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1992

Quest for the Best

Caribbean
vs
Pacific



US \$2.95
CANADA \$3.50
UK £1.95

Go overboard.



AQUALAND II DIVING WATCH. The state of the art just got awesome. This is the first diving watch equipped with an analog depth sensor display. It has a rapid ascent warning signal, a maximum depth memory, a preset depth alarm with repeat, and a battery life indicator. Citizen is proud to have been selected as the official timer of America's Cup '92.

CITIZEN[®]
PROMASTER

ADVANCED DIVING

11 *Advanced Diving Journal*

Mike Menduno and Captain Billy Deans examine dangers in the realm of technical diving. Karl Shreeves reviews scientific studies about the changes our bodies endure under water. Bret Gilliam traces the development of high performance cylinder valve manifolds. Wes Skiles recalls a brush with death, and Hillary Vidars explains the use of emergency oxygen.

FEATURES

36 Pacific vs Caribbean—Ocean Options

The better you know them, the easier it is to choose between these two great bodies of water. Nancy Sefton compares the ins and outs from top to bottom.

42 Florida Keys—Paradise, Lost? Found? Up for grabs?

Fred Garth wades through the controversy surrounding the future of the only living coral reef in the continental United States and the multi-million dollar dive industry that sinks or swims with it.

52 Fiji—Faraway Places, Friendly Faces

Greg Brown claims to have finned his way around Fiji more times than any other American diver. For the first time, he attempts to explain his fascination with this South Pacific island chain.

DEPARTMENTS

8 Letters to *Scuba Times*

27 Divers' Datebook—Pencil in some holiday adventure

28 In the Wild—Sometimes a trip gone wrong turns out just right

30 The Cousteau Society—Face to face with ancient whale skulls in Fiji

32 Diversions—News of note from around the dive world

50 Head to Head Review—Wide-beam strobes brighten the horizon

58 New Waves—Safety and convenience dominate these new products

60 Live-aboard Update—Remote possibilities become reality

75 Creature Feature—Are you eel-equipped to make a new friend?

76 Free Flowing—The scared and the ugly meet during a night dive

82 Last Watering Hole—Frontier diving in Tierra del Fuego

LISTINGS

62 Dive Travel Directory

65 Scuba Market

66 Advertiser Listing

68 Dive Store Directory



45



52

Cover shot: David Fleetham was in Indonesia when this live *Nautilus pompilius* was raised from 600 to 60 feet. He shot 15 rolls before releasing it to return to its preferred depths.

Scuba Times (ISSN 0739-568X) is published bi-monthly for \$15.00 per year and \$26.00 for two years by GBP, Inc., 33 Music Square West, Suite 104, Nashville, TN 37203. Second class postage paid at Nashville, TN and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Scuba Times*, P.O. Box 40702, Nashville, TN 37204-9905.

OPEN YOUR EYES
TO A WHOLE NEW WORLD
OF UNDERWATER PHOTOGRAPHY.



PRESENTING THE NIKONOS® RS.

THE FIRST UNDERWATER AUTOFOCUS SLR SYSTEM.



It's an extraordinary world of creative opportunities where you're challenged each time you view your subject.

Is the focus razor sharp? Can you make the composition more eye-catching? How close must you get to capture all its intricate details and vivid colors?

Your answers are provided through the remarkable precision and lightning speed of an entirely new breed of photographic tool — the Nikonos RS — the world's first underwater SLR camera system.

A long-awaited technological breakthrough, the Nikonos RS offers greater creative control. It allows you to photograph new subjects that you wouldn't attempt to shoot before. And gives you even better results.

Plus, it's rugged enough to dive to depths of 328 ft., easy to handle, and has the most advanced focusing and metering system ever in an underwater camera.

TRUE REFLEX VIEWING Put the Nikonos RS to your eye and your entire view of the marine world will change. You see your subject through an incredibly large action finder with a 60mm eye relief which allows for easy framing and precise focus confirmation even while wearing a mask. It's extremely bright, too, revealing all your subject's detail in the darkest depths.

Composition immediately comes together in your eye instead of your imagination, and you know you will become a better photographer.

THE MOST ADVANCED AUTOFOCUS SYSTEM It's so fast, it can capture the swiftest subjects — even up close. So intelligent, it automatically activates its focus tracking system when it sees a moving subject, predicting its position at the precise moment of exposure. And so sensitive, it can focus in light as low as EV minus 1 (your own eye can't focus any better). A real help when you're searching the crevices and overhangs of coral reefs for shy subjects.

If manual focusing is needed, the Nikonos RS responds with its Power Manual Focus and Electronic Rangefinder.

THREE SUPERB INTERCHANGEABLE LENSES The beauty of an SLR system is being able to see the world from different perspectives. The Nikonos RS offers three new autofocus lenses, all manufactured to the same optical performance standards that set Nikon apart.



The 28mm f/2.8 lens is the tool you need for moderately wide angle scenes, or to come in as close as 10 inches for a 1:6 reproduction. The 50mm f/2.8 micro lens is your portal to the spectacular world of macrophotography, offering reflex viewing all the way to life size reproduction, or 1:1. And the 20-35mm f/2.8 zoom lens gives you creative composition with the flick of your wrist. You can compose with multiple angles from the same spot without frightening your subjects or silting the environment.

OPTIMUM METERING AND EXPOSURE A glance through the action finder reveals how complex and ever-changing lighting is under water. Working with both natural and artificial light is crucial to your shots, and Nikon's exclusive Matrix Metering gives you the means to analyze this light and provide a perfect blend of Balanced Fill-Flash.

For creative control, Center Weighted Metering and manual flash exposures are optional. Experiment with shutter speeds as slow as one second or the "B" setting for long-time exposures.

THE POWERFUL NEW SB-104 SPEEDLIGHT Under water, you have to react to unusual subjects or behavior by shooting fast and often. With a 3-second recycle time and 100-degree coverage angle, the SB-104 Speedlight provides a powerful source of light and an ideal 4,700K color balance.

Put it all together and the Nikonos RS is a wondrous new camera species that's going to change marine life forever. Look through the action finder and enter its world. You'll discover a place where the impossible no longer is. See the RS at your Nikonos dealer today, or for a free brochure, write: Nikon Inc., Dept. NRS, 19601 Hamilton Ave., Torrance, CA 90502-1309.



Nikon
We take the world's
greatest pictures.®

© 1992 Nikon Inc.

EDITOR'S LINE

FRED D. GARTH

In this issue we're delighted to cover the world's most popular dive area—the Florida Keys. Clear water, superbly expansive reefs, tropical fish, lobsters and warm weather are just a fraction of the draws to this continental paradise. Yet, over the years we've heard stories of reef damage, fish being depleted and general abuse to the area. Then in 1990 President Bush designated the entire string of islands, as the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS). Good move, right? Not necessarily.

Many locals are outraged at the folks in Washington dictating their water activities. Treasure salvors are stirred up to the point of indignation. Commercial fishermen are ticked off. And the general attitude towards what seemed like a good idea is one of dismay.

So where does that leave divers? Basically in the middle. While the FKNMS designation is controversial, and the environment is in delicate balance, many dive operators and dedicated divers should be commended for their efforts to preserve this natural resource. Don't get me wrong, there are still divers who will chop up a sponge and break off a chunk of elkhorn coral just so he can have a lobster on his dinner plate. However, operators are educating the millions of visitors who come to blow bubbles on the colorful reefs.

Unfortunately, no matter how much education is accomplished, the greatest threat comes from land-based pollution. Curtailing sewage, pesticides and other pollutants from Miami, the Everglades and the Keys themselves is the long-term solution. Diver impact is one thing. Basic water quality is another.

With all that being said, the Keys remain wildly popular and offer a great time in and out of the water. It can be like that for a long time if we divers do our part.

If you've already checked the Keys off of your places-to-dive list for this year, and you're trying to decide between the Pacific and Caribbean, we have just what you need—a handy ocean comparison. Nancy Sefton, who lived a stone's throw from Little Cayman's Bloody Bay Wall for years and now resides in Seattle where she can hit the Pacific quickly, gives us her comparison of the Caribbean and Pacific.

Finally, Greg Brown rounds out our destination pieces in Fiji, where tribal chieftains and fax machines live in harmony. The circle of 300 or so islands also has some of the world's top diving.

We appreciate the comments (both positive and negative) on our newest feature, the *Advanced Diving Journal (ADJ)*, which first appeared in our July/August '92 issue. Soon after it hit the streets, a number of shock waves rolled through our offices like the L.A. quake. Some complained that we were promoting unsafe diving, others applauded our efforts of reporting on this new trend of technical diving.

Just to set the record straight, *Scuba Times Magazine* is not trying to promote technical diving. Our role as a journalistic voice of diving is to report on the world of diving. We are dedicated to safe diving within your experience and certification level. Technical diving is dangerous and people die doing it as you'll read on page 12 of this issue's *ADJ*. Just as people die climbing Mount Everest, snow skiing off glaciers or hang gliding from mountain tops, divers can die when pushing the limits. Every sport has its extremists. Diving is no different. We hope that the *ADJ* will educate people to these facts and keep untrained and inexperienced divers from killing themselves and other divers.

On the happy side of all this, diving for the majority—that is recreational divers—continues to expand and improve. Dive insurance is becoming increasingly available. Daily improvements in dive equipment are nothing short of phenomenal. New dive resorts are opening all over the world (we just got a fax about a new resort on the island of Principe, off of West Africa). And the list of dive services grow by leaps and bounds. I guess the moral is that diving just keeps getting better and better. And if you love diving as much as I do, that's real good news.

That's it from here. Enjoy. ■



Photo by Mike Mesgleski

Fred D. Garth

GBP, Inc.

Managing Editor
Fred D. Garth

Copy Editor
Gwen Roland

Creative Director
E. Blair Fischrupp

Art Director
Trisha Russell

Assistant Art Director
Emily Tappan

Marketing Manager
Regina Franklin

Advertising Manager
David Benz

Advertising Representative
Lance Fahrney

Office Manager
Toni Renee White

Accounting Manager
Dianna Dudley

Circulation Director
Charlene Moseley

Contributing Editors
Scott Frier
Bret Gilliam
Doug Perrine
Karl Shreeves
Marty Snyderman
Franklin Viola

Advertising
(800) 234-0060; (904) 492-7805

Subscription Inquiries
(800) 950-7282

srds

MPA

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Continental U.S. one year \$15.00, two years \$26.00. Canada, Guam, Mexico, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, one year \$20.00, two years \$36.00. Other international air mail, one year \$36.00, two years \$68.00. Sample copies \$3.50. Send to *Scuba Times*, P.O. Box 40702, Nashville, TN 37204-9905.

Editorial contributions should be mailed to *Scuba Times*, Editorial Dept., 14110 Perdido Key Drive, Suite 16, Pensacola, FL 32507. They must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped return mailer. *Scuba Times* reserves the right to edit all materials as needed. Compensation is paid at the current rates and covers the author's and/or photographer's right, interest in and title to the material. This also includes reprint rights and resale of material unless other arrangements are made in writing in advance. We assume no responsibility for unsolicited materials. Submissions shall automatically constitute an expressed warranty by the contributor that the material is original and is in no way an infringement on the rights of others.

The opinions stated in the articles of *Scuba Times* are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the management of *Scuba Times*.

See The Difference.



The New SeaVision Dive Mask Improves Clarity, Color and Depth Perception.

In the past 20 years, dive masks were improved only for design, durability and color availability. No one, until now, has done anything to improve what one can actually see with the mask!

SeaVision, using a patented process, contains a unique color-correcting ingredient never before used in the manufacture of dive masks. This ingredient intensifies and strengthens the colors of the spectrum which are lost by the light absorption properties of water. With the use of SeaVision, the entire spectrum of colors will once again



"I tried the SeaVision mask and saw the difference."

— Peter Hughes

become visible, increasing clarity and depth perception.

SeaVision comes in a variety of lens rim colors and offers a low volume split lens design with a gray silicone skirt that keeps your eyes focused on the subject you are viewing. The lenses are treated for scratch and fog resistance and easy-to-install corrective and custom prescription lenses are also available. SeaVision comes in a durable plastic storage case and is backed with a one-year warranty and a 30-day satisfaction guarantee.

Try SeaVision, and you'll see the difference for yourself!

Drop by your local dive store and ask to see the SeaVision video! Dealerships are now Available:
1-813-866-9944 or Fax: 1-813-866-0037



SeaVision®

The Dive Mask with the Focus on Better Vision

The Ultimate Predator

"An Unexpected Twist" written by Marty Snyderman was simply outstanding! I can really relate to his love for wild things and wild places.

As a sportsman and adventurer, I have questioned our society's refusal to acknowledge that as humans we are hunters and predators. I feel that spearfishing and hunting are neither wrong nor cruel when held in the context of fair and legal take. Poaching, slaughter and waste in my mind are evil and we as "caretakers of this planet . . . have a responsibility to make sure we preserve the balance." Join me and thousands of other concerned individuals in supporting sound scientific wildlife management around the world!

William P. Rhinehart
Riverside, CA

Pen Pal

Thank you for the subscription to *Scuba Times Magazine*. It arrived just after we were locked down because of a mini-riot. It should make a fine gift subscription for a friend on the "outside" as soon as I save up about a month's

wages. Meanwhile I'll be circulating *Scuba Times* through this 1,500-man penitentiary to other potential subscribers. It's a well-rounded water-related publication.

J.M. Buckley
Leavenworth, KS

P.S. I'd rather be free-diving.

Talk about a diverse readership! We hope the upcoming Divesuit Issue (January/February) doesn't cause another riot.

Tight Fit

My article on the Aqua Woman Expedition in the July/August issue of *Scuba Times* was published with editorial cuts. It should be noted that for the last seven years, Aqua Woman has been organized by Karen Gurian of Massapequa, New York, and has been sponsored by The American Sport Divers Association. ASD's Founder and Director, Capt. Howard Klein, has been and continues to be a major asset to the Aqua Woman Expedition. Captain Klein generously donates his time, support, the use of his boat, the *Eagle's Nest*, and his

marvelous sense of humor. Also omitted from my story were the beautiful topside and underwater pictures taken by the Aqua Woman Expedition's official photographer, Pete Nawrocky.

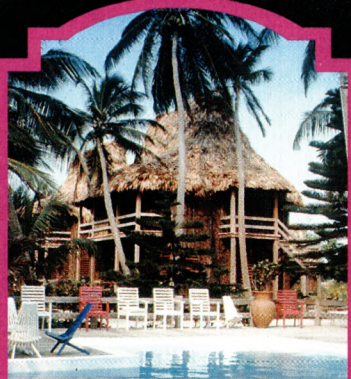
Hillary Vidars
Tenafly, NJ

Unfortunately when space constraints force us to make cuts, we have to base decisions on what the reader would most want to know. In this case the accomplishments of the Aqua Woman project took priority over giving credit to some of the people who make it all possible.

True Brit

Just a short note in response to Wayne Tamereilli's letter in the May/June issue, in which he said that he did not agree with using BC's for out-of-air situations.

I must say that in Britain it is a standard part of our training that we are able to take a breath from our A.B.L.J., or Stab. We are trained to be able to make a slow buoyant ascent and breath normally. I do agree with Wayne's main statement that it's better to not have an out-of-air situation in the first place. An



Sunny blue skies, tropical trade-winds, palm thatched cabanas, the second largest barrier reef in the world and a fully staffed and equipped dive center are all just part of what makes Ramon's Village one of the most unique vacation spots in the world.



Ramon's Village
Ambergris Caye, Belize

For more information, call or write:
P.O. Drawer 4407 Laurel, MS 39441
(601) 649-1990



**BEST DIVING
IN THE
CARIBBEAN**
FROM \$299⁰⁰
p.p./dbl/occ
DIVING, MEALS & LODGING

GET AWAY FROM THE CROWDS

Return to the timeless charm of rural Cayman. With only 17 down-by-the-sea units, the Cayman Diving Lodge offers warm hospitality and our world of spectacular diving.



CAYMAN DIVING LODGE
EAST END

RESERVATIONS
1-800-TLC-DIVE
(404) 424-7500

*Hotel tax & service charge not included.

old but wise saying is "Plan your dive and dive your plan."

I enjoy reading your stories about the tropical dive sites, and one day I hope to dive some of them. But we in the north-east of England have some great dive sites, too. We are also a few hours' drive from Scotland, St. Abbs Eyemouth, Scapper Flow and Oban to name but a few great dive sites. We all love reading about Truk Lagoon, but we have a whole WWI German fleet scuttled at Scapper Flow. We in Britain would love to have more U.S. divers come and dive some of our dive sites.

John Southern
Great Britain

Some of our hardy New England or California divers may take you up on that invitation. As for the rest of us wimps, maybe we'll come if the dollar gets stronger, the water gets warmer and the beer gets colder.

Lost in translation?

In "Beneath the Ice," (March/April, 1992) there was a gross mistake in safety. It reads, "He found the caterpillar in 90

feet of crystal clear water even though his regulator froze, and he had to surface while holding his breath."

If Jean-Paul Mestre held his breath from 90 feet, his lung volume would expand approximately three times its volume at 90 feet. I feel that this print is an oversight by the writer and staff of *Scuba Times*. The most important rule in scuba diving is "breathe continuously, never hold your breath."

Mark Diamante
Modesto, CA

Correct, Mark. No one here can believe that one got through editing. Perhaps the meaning was lost in translation from writer Le Guen's native French. Either way, he no doubt exhaled slowly upon ascent as emergency ascent training teaches us.

Defense or offense?

The article entitled "Is Diver Training Too Soft?" (March/April, 1992) states that 15 years ago scuba classes tended to be rigorous both physically and academically, but, that now the classes are easier and briefer. It also implies that because the

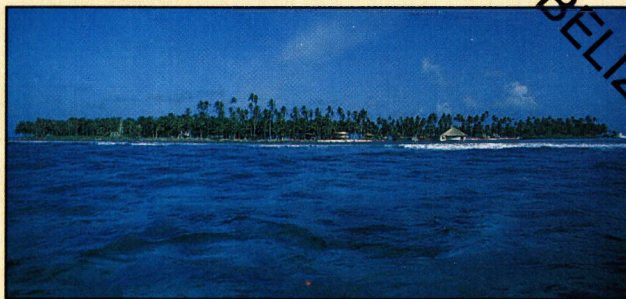
courses were academically demanding, eyebrows were raised if the student was elderly or female. Unfortunately, our society still makes derogatory statements regarding women and elderly people. These statements present a false picture. Intelligence, gender and age have nothing to do with one another. You have a responsibility to your readers to be sensitive to these kinds of misleading statements. In the future, don't let them slip by unnoticed.

Audryl McGuinness

Although we are always willing to accept responsibility when we goof (see previous letter), this time we stand by Karl Shreeves' statement as a comment on the macho mindset of divers 15 years ago, rather than on the intelligence of female and elderly students.

We welcome comments from our readers. Address correspondence to: Scuba Times, 14110 Perdido Key Drive, Suite 16, Pensacola, FL 32507. Not all letters can be published; those published may be edited for clarity and space

On the Edge of Paradise



Sand, Sea, Serenity & Scuba

- Private 12-Acre Island & Tropical Mahogany Cabanas
- Modern, Comfortable Dive & Fishing Boats
- Last Frontier of Unspoiled Dive Sites
- Social Activities Included
- Certification Programs for Scuba Offered
- Bar & Restaurant Over Pier
- E6 Photo Lab

MANTA RESORT

GLOVER'S REEF



Call 1-800-342-0053

IN BELIZE: 011-501-232767 FAX: 011-501-232764

PARADISE
VIRGIN GORDA



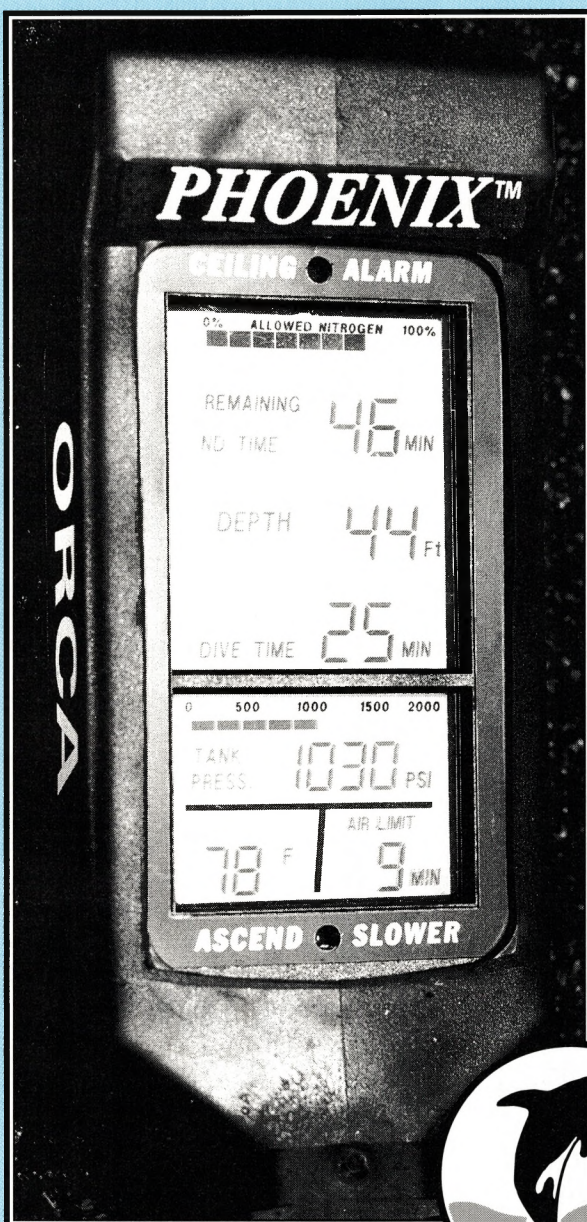
SIMPLY THE BEST!

- Highest quality diving
- Finest staff & equipment available
- Three full service locations to serve you better
- PADI 5-star training facility

Join DIVE B.V.I. in Virgin Gorda for a real taste of Paradise!

P.O. Box 1040
Virgin Gorda
British Virgin Islands
Phone (800) 848-7078
(809) 495-5513
Fax (809) 495 5347

The New Phoenix™ Dive Computer



PHOENIX™
is designed and made in the USA



Air Integrated

The Phoenix measures tank pressure and computes air consumption rates. This information provides the "air limit" display of how many minutes your remaining air will last. In addition, Phoenix calculates and displays "no decompression time". All of your critical information is now available — at a single glance.

Phoenix Features:

- ▶ Large, Easy to Read Information
- ▶ Professional 300 foot Depth Range
- ▶ Patented Tissue Loading Bar Graph
- ▶ Temperature
- ▶ Tank Pressure
- ▶ Air Time Remaining
- ▶ Long-life, User-changeable battery
- ▶ Ascent and Ceiling Alarms

Dive Logging

Phoenix shows you the last three dives completed and, with the ORCA DataReader, can download the last 35 hours of dive information. Phoenix is the most powerful dive computer on the market today.

Affordable

With a suggested retail price of \$649.00 the Phoenix is also one of the most inexpensive air integrated computers available.

Dive Intelligently. Dive Orca.

ORCA®

A Division of EIT Inc.

100 Carpenter Drive • Suite 102

P.O. Box 1337, Sterling, Virginia 22170

(703) 478-0333

Fax: (703) 478-0815

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT:


☐ Money order ☐ Certified check ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Card # _____ Exp. Date: ____/____

Send materials attention "TRADE-IN OFFER"

TRADE-UP OFFER

Owners of non-functional Delphi and Mentor Dive computers may trade up to a new Phoenix for \$259. This offer applies to all models of ORCA Delphi and Mares Mentor Dive Computers. See your local ORCA dealer, or clip the attached coupon and send it along with your Delphi/Mentor plus \$259 payable to the ORCA Division of EIT, Inc. Computers received without payment will be returned to sender. This offer expires on July 15, 1994. Offer is subject to availability of Phoenix. Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing.



adi

ADVANCED DIVING JOURNAL

TECHNICAL DIVING PAGE 12
PERSONALITY SPOTLIGHT PAGE 14
SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT PAGE 16
DIVE EQUIPMENT PAGE 19

WRECK DIVING PAGE 20
MEDICINE IN DIVING PAGE 22
ADVANCED DIVING PAGE 24

Cover Photo: Cave divers set high standards for proper equipment and training to minimize risks. Photo by Wes Skiles.
Editors of Advanced Diving Journal: Bret Gilliam and Tom Mount



Can Diving Survive A Technical Revolution?

Editor's Note: During the month of July, 1992, there were at least three fatal diving accidents within the realm of technical diving. The reasons for the accidents are fairly clear—human error or an error in judgment. More importantly, these tragedies caused the technical community to look within itself and, perhaps, regroup.

Over the last few years a new class of diving has emerged from the closet that promises to extend the "self-contained" diving envelope beyond established recreational limits. Judging from the recent flurry of publicity on deep diving, solo, decompression, the use of enriched air (nitrox) and helium mixes, the technical diving "revolution" appears to have not only captured the interest of the industry but has become very fashionable as well.

New methods and technologies are becoming available to improve dive safety and to make deep and extended diving feasible with what is considered by many to be an acceptable degree of risk. However, these improvements come at the price of increased planning, operational complexity and expense. As a result, to date, these tools have been used successfully by only a small number of very experienced, highly trained divers representing the vanguard of the field. Now they are becoming available to the sport diving community at large, raising the question: "Are sport divers ready for this revolution?"

The recent alarming trend in dive accidents involving "technical-level exposures" leaves room for doubt. The three recent wreck diving deaths are cases in point.

In the first case, a diver wearing double overpressurized 72s "ran out of gas" while making a penetration dive on the *Andrea Doria* (240 fsw). His partner who entered the water with a "half-filled" set of steel 120s—insufficient gas to make the dive safely—survived. Both were breathing trimix, though apparently neither was trained in its use. The team was separated during a penetration in the wreck. When the surviving partner exited at 220 fsw with only several hundred psi remaining in his doubles and found his stage bottles clipped off near the anchor line, his partner was nowhere to be found. The body was later recovered. His tanks were empty.

A week later, an experienced deep wreck diver knowingly violated the NOAA oxygen limits while diving a New Jersey wreck on enriched air nitrox, suffered an oxygen seizure and drowned. The diver was breathing an EAN 40 (40% O₂, 60% N). This mix has a rated maximum operating depth or MOD of 85-100 fsw (a partial pressure of oxygen or PO₂ of 1.4-1.6 atm). However, the deck of

the wreck is at 110 fsw with a maximum depth of 135 fsw, resulting in a PO₂ of 1.7-2.0 atm which is well above the CNS (central nervous system) toxicity threshold. The diver apparently had told others in the past that he didn't follow the NOAA guidelines and didn't believe they applied to him. In at least one case the diver recommended that another follow his example. After all, diving air at 250 fsw is equivalent to a PO₂ of 1.8 atm—no problem! The problem is that CNS toxicity is a function of both PO₂ (depth) and time. His ran out. His body was found approximately 45-50 minutes into the dive with the regulator out of his mouth and 1,500 psi in his doubles. Maximum depth on his computer was 132 fsw. This time the limits applied.

Two weeks later another experienced diver drowned after getting separated from the mainline during a wreck penetration on the *Doria*, while the team worked as planned at two different places within the wreck. Though the trimix used to conduct the operation was a big safety factor, analysts on site believe the diver left the line to explore just a little further for more china before making his planned exit—contrary to the dive plan. He wasn't running a gap reel. (A gap reel is a hand-carried reel used to explore

**"Safety is the key consideration in diving;
it entirely controls depth capability."**

Imbert, Ciesielski & Fructus *Safe Deep Sea Diving Using Hydrogen*

beyond a permanently attached line. Like many technical diving apparati, it was developed by cave divers.) In addition his primary light failed, leaving only a single "dim" secondary light for exiting the silted wreck (cave diving and wreck penetration training dictates three lights minimum). This probably added to his confusion. Lost in the wreck, he ran out of gas and drowned before the team was able to locate him. His body was later recovered at 230 fsw. Though he was a well-trained police diver, he didn't have extensive wreck penetration experience and apparently had gotten slightly disoriented on a prior dive during the trip.

Accidents are a statistical reality in diving. Unfortunately in each of these cases, experienced divers violated one or more basic safety principles and died as a result. According to a recent study of diving accidents by Mano

and Shibayama published in the *Marine Technology Society Journal*, over 45 percent of the sport diving fatalities investigated were due to "lack of technique" and "reckless diving." Their conclusion is probably even more applicable to technical diving where there is little margin for error. With today's technologies and the accessibility of complex diving environments, it's easy for people to get in over their heads.

A real problem today is the fact that machismo is still alive and well in many communities. The cavalier attitudes exhibited by some divers and what has been termed "brass fever"—artifacts at any cost—are every bit as deadly. The result is that some individuals are encouraged to attempt dives that are beyond their experience level without first doing the work required to prepare themselves. Furthermore some individuals are knowingly pushing air and oxygen limits to dangerous levels ("It doesn't apply to me.") and running gas supplies to the limit.

If technical diving is to become an acceptable and reliable practice, then the prevailing attitudes must be underscored by the need to promote *safety*, not technical diving. This is both the responsibility of individual divers as well as the agencies and companies that support them. This has been successful in the cave community, which has been a model of education and responsibility in this regard. If divers want to extend the envelope, they should do it intelligently with caution and care. This means having the right attitude, training and practice; the appropriate equipment and support and building up their experience base slowly.

Ultimately every revolution has a cost. The real test for technical diving will depend on the diving community's ability to balance the requirement for safety with the human need to explore.

Michael Menduno is the publisher and editor of aquaCorps: The Journal For Technical Diving and technicalDiver newsletter. Cpt. Billy Deans is the president of Key West Diver, Inc. "Technical Diving Center," which offers training in deep and special mix diving.

1.Y.Man and M. Shibayama, "Aspects of Recent Scuba Diving Accidents," Marine Technology Society Journal, Vol 23. Number 4, Dec. 1989.

aquaCorps presents tek.93

An Emerging Dive Technologies Conference.

**Sponsored by Dive Rite Mfg.,
Mares and National Draeger**

**Sunday, Jan.17th- Jan.19th, 1993
Orlando, Florida
(Just Prior To DEMA)**

- Sessions:**
- Full Face Masks & Communications
 - Advances in Decompression Management
 - Improving Deep Diving Safety
 - Closed Circuit Technology
- Exhibits:**
- Over 40 leading edge manufacturers and service vendors,
 - A "swimmable" one atmosphere suit
 - Hydrogen diving and much, much more!

for information call, write, or fax:

aquaCorps
618 Ashe St.
Key West, FL 33040
1-800-365-2655
FAX: 305-294-7612

TOM MOUNT'S Quality Diver Education

International Assoc. of Nitrox Divers,
National Assoc. of Cave Divers and
NAUI certification

With 33 years of experience, Tom Mount is internationally known and respected as a diver, author, photographer and educator. He has logged 10,000+ dives including 2,000+ cave dives, 2,000+ dives below 200 FSW, 800+ wreck dives, with many being saturation dives. This experience insures a comprehensive quality training program.

FEATURING DIVER TRAINING IN:

- Nitrox
- Trimix
- Photography
- Underwater Modeling by Patti Mount
- Open Water through Dive Master
- Cave Diving
- Wreck diving
- Video

Join us on exotic dive trips!

**IF EXPERIENCE AND
QUALITY TRAINING ARE IMPOR-
TANT TO YOU, CALL 305-754-1027**

OR WRITE: 1545 N.E. 104 Street
Miami Shores, FL 33138

Ocean Odyssey DIVE CENTRE



WEST COAST TECHNICAL HEADQUARTERS

2345 S. Rodeo Gulch Road
Santa Cruz, CA 95062

EXCEPTIONAL EXPOSURES™

- Deep Air / O₂ Decompression
- Enriched Air EANx
- Tri-mix
- Consultant Services

EQUIPMENT

- Full Retail, Repair, Rental
- Specialty—Cave, Deep, Video
- Air & Gas Station
- Portable EANx System

CHARTERS ABOARD XANADU

- Private Coastal Exploration
- Technical Surface Support Vessel for Deep air/Trimix
- Research/Photo Excursions

CAPTAIN "WINGS"

408-475-DIVE ■ Fax 408-475-3526

Evie Dudas First Lady on the *Doria*

In 1964, Evelyn "Evie" Dudas took up scuba diving with less than an ideal motivation. She figured it would give her the inside shot in winning the attention of a boyfriend away from a non-diving competitor.

"I was 19 then, and he was an avid diver," she recalls. "He had another girlfriend who didn't dive, so I figured my ace in the hole was to learn all I could about the sport. My first dive was in Richland Quarry in Pennsylvania, and I was so hooked I dove in another quarry the same day. I continued diving all over and even visited Canada to dive the shipwrecks up there. I broke up with the boyfriend but had discovered a new calling: diving. I've been involved ever since."

Only three years after her first plunge into that dark quarry, she would become the first woman to ever dive the infamous 240-foot-deep wreck of the luxury liner *Andrea Doria* sunk in 1956 in a collision with another ship. Only a handful of men had ever visited the site by 1967. To gain

acceptance she had to overcome superstition and other obstacles placed in her way.

"In working up to the *Doria*, I dove all the serious New Jersey wrecks. On most of these dives, I was the only girl aboard. In the beginning there was a strong male chauvinist reaction to my presence. But after I proved I could keep up with all of them and outdive some of them, I was heartily accepted, especially by a guy named John Dudas."

John would be her partner on three historic dives to the *Doria*. A group of 12 divers and an all-male crew voted her a spot aboard the *Viking Starlight* for the expedition. A quarter of a century later, she can describe it as if it just happened.

"Captain Paul Forsberg headed the boat into three-foot seas on a cold June morning that summer in 1967. We had plans to anchor over the wreck for three days and two nights. It's about 110 miles from Montauk Point, Long Island and 60 miles due south of Nantucket. Late that same day, we zeroed in on the *Doria*, and our first team of divers

B Y B R E T G I L L I A M



The Great Escape!

CAYMAN BRAC

& LITTLE CAYMAN

BRAC REEF

BEACH RESORT

All Inclusive Diving Packages



- 800 Feet of White Sandy Beaches
- Fresh Water Pool & Jacuzzi
- Open Air Lounge, Lagoon Pier
- Breakfast, Lunch And Dinner Buffet
- Gift Shops In Lobby And Lighted Tennis Court
- Complete Dive Shop - Diving By Brac Aquatics

We Can Handle All Your Reservations and Ticketing.
U.S.A. Reservations Office - Brac Reef Beach Resort
 4127 5th Avenue North St. Petersburg, Florida 33713
Call Today Toll Free !
1-800-327-3835



Little Cayman
BEACH RESORT
 A DIVE & FISHING RESORT
 Cayman Islands B.W.I.
 Dive Little Caymans Famous Bloody Bay Wall

OPENING WINTER '92,'93
Now Under Construction
 Little Caymans New Diving & Fishing Beach Resort

- Worlds Greatest Bone & Fly Fishing
- Fishing Charters & Jeep Rentals
- Sea Side Pier, Restaurant, Lounge, Fresh Water Pool & Jacuzzi
- Complete Dive Shop Diving By Reef Divers Ltd.

Call Us To-Day For Details On
 All Of Our Great Escape Packages..
 1 (800) 327-3835 Phone (813) 323-8727
 Fax (813) 323-8827

attached the anchor line to the stern wing railing of the wreck.

"As I toppled from the warm, safe confines of the dive boat into the dark, icy Atlantic, neither storms, sharks, currents nor the bends were going to prevent me from fulfilling my *Doria* dream. I followed John down the line that terminated on the most magnificent wreck I had ever set eyes on. In the 50-foot visibility, the hull looked like an enormous freight train disappearing into the misty sea. Surprisingly, the whiteness of the upper decks gleamed brightly through the haze, sort of inviting us to explore them.

"My third dive on the last day was the most exciting. I was with John again, and he was after the binnacle cover to the ship's compass, still intact in the wheelhouse. He had spotted it the day before, and he roused me out at six a.m. to go after the darn thing. The visibility was good but the water seemed colder, 40°F or less."

After descending, John occupied himself with the binnacle at 205 feet, while Evie salvaged some brass door



handles from the officers' duty lounge and chart room. The wreck site is plagued by changing currents, rapid weather switches and the hazards of ocean-going ships passing over the area. Suddenly she was overcome by apprehension and cold. An unknown voice told her it was time to go. She made her way out of the wreck's interior to rendezvous with John.

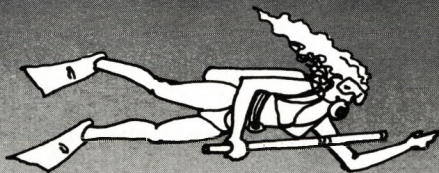
"I needed John, and I was ready to go," she said. "But he let his temper get the best of him, and he was trying to wrench the whole binnacle from its mooring. Somehow he regained his cool, gave the cover a twist and lifted it right off. There, beneath the cover, lay the compass that guided the 30,000-ton liner on a collision course with the *Stockholm*, 11 years earlier. This was the most prized artifact, and we thought other divers had salvaged it long before us. I watched as John ripped it from its mounting.

"The cross currents fiercely swayed the unruly anchor line as we held on for dear life throughout the decompression stops. Fifteen minutes after we boarded the *Viking Starlight*, the one-and-a-half-inch thick nylon line snapped. I guess my timing was perfect. We bade farewell to the *Andrea Doria* as storm warnings swept over her gravesite. We had our souvenirs, and I had fulfilled my dream."

John and Evie were married in 1970 and had four children, all active divers. Widowed in 1982, Evie remains totally immersed in diving as a dive store owner in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Her Dudas' Diving Duds is one of the premier pro facilities on the East Coast.

UM-1 Sea Stick

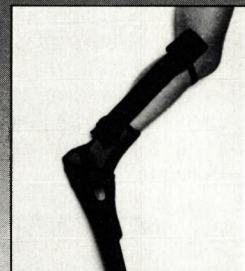
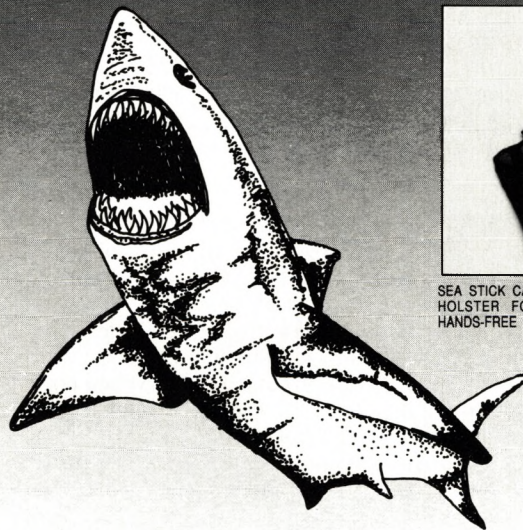
The Ultimate Underwater Defensive Weapon



FEATURES:

- Quick loading eliminates the need to carry a loaded weapon. (The UM-1 can be loaded, fired and reloaded underwater in 5 seconds.
- 2 built-in independent safeties.
- Positive cartridge extraction eliminates jamming and the need for additional barrels.
- Compact - the unit is 26 1/8" assembled. The UM-1 separates into 2 halves, each 14" long, for holstering. The halves are securely held together by a stainless steel cable. Assembly is quick and positive utilizing a quick disconnect fitting.
- Lightweight - total unit weight is 13 oz.
- Non-slip handle
- Nylon quick draining holster holds the

- UM-1 securely in place on the leg allowing instant accessibility and hands free diving.
- The powerhead can be detached and is threaded to fit a 6mm spear shaft. Powerheads can be purchased separately.
- Calibers available: 38, .357 Magnum, .44 Magnum, .223
- Quality construction - all components are made from stainless steel and hard anodized aluminum for optimum corrosion protection. All parts are tested before assembly. All weapons are test fired to assure reliability.
- Low maintenance required
- Designed for minimum recoil
- Money back guarantee



SEA STICK CAN BE CARRIED IN A LEG HOLSTER FOR EASY ACCESS AND HANDS-FREE DIVING.

Order direct. Immediate delivery available from stock. Dealer inquiries welcome.



Diving Equipment Corp. • 4811 Carnegie Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio 44103 • (216) 361-3669



S C H O O L S O F
T H O U G H T

Metabolic Meditations

The Exercise of Diving

"P"eaceful," "relaxing," "weightless," say the scuba ads. It doesn't sound much more strenuous than watching grass grow. Of course, after only one or two dives, anyone realizes that diving requires physical exertion, and under some conditions, more than a little. This raises some questions: Is diving a "workout?" How does diving affect the human body's energy expenditure? How much physical effort does diving involve? If we define diving as "the total experience of diving," then the opportunities for significant exercise are greater than if we define diving as "swimming underwater."

Viewed as its "total experience," diving has the potential for a great deal of strenuous exercise, though much can be avoided by choice of diving scenario. For example, a shore dive with a long walk in full equipment from the car to the beach, a reasonable surface swim and then the reverse at the dive's end, will have most divers breathing hard and hearts pounding. This definitely qualifies as "exercise." Done on a regular and frequent basis, this type diving could be expected to produce real aerobic fitness.

On the other hand, pre-dive efforts prior to a resort boat dive may be limited to standing up and taking four steps to the stern—not exactly what Richard Simmons would endorse. Since pre-dive and post-dive exercise might be viewed as various degrees of weight lifting, aerobic swimming, and backpack hiking, let's look at diving in its purest form—being underwater.

METABOLIC CHANGES UNDERWATER

It would be great if there existed a wide knowledge base regarding human metabolic changes during typical recreational dives. Likewise, it would be great if there were a tooth fairy; but neither exists. There are, however, limited studies of human metabolism during saturation dives, during cold water immersion, with and without exercise. While not a perfect match to all recreational diving, the findings contain lessons all divers should note.

Weight Loss Almost every study of human metabolism underwater found an immediate and notable weight loss in test subjects. During a saturation study in 1977, divers lost an average of eight pounds each in 10 days, despite a daily intake of 6000 calories—twice the average person's daily intake. The findings support a previous study at the University of Pennsylvania in 1971 which

found an average loss of nine pounds per diver during a similar period, despite a calorie intake that should have maintained diver weights.

Before you trade your Jenny Craig membership for a new BC, however, it appears weight loss in these studies was not due entirely to higher metabolism. It was primarily due to dehydration. Most saturation studies note an initial urination increase in test subjects, particularly when exposed to cold water; recreational divers tend to experience the same trend on a day of diving.

Why the body dehydrates while diving isn't completely



Above: Diving can be as rigorous or as relaxing as you choose to make it, but certain metabolic changes are predictable. The smart diver will know them and plan ahead. Photo by Fred Garth.

understood; moisture lost through perspiration and breathing dry air explain part of the phenomenon. Cold exposure also contributes, but some tests suggest that exposure to pressure alone (as in deep saturation diving) triggers increased urination. Whatever the causes, shed water and you'll chuck off weight, but only until you grab a bottle of fruit juice or water—something you should do regularly while diving because dehydration is thought to predispose you to decompression sickness.

Exposure to Cold Studies have shown repeatedly that exposure to cold (not just in diving) for extended periods tends to cause body responses such as releasing fat stores, possibly to provide metabolic fuel. In a U.S. Navy

B Y K A R L S H R E E V E S

study (Smith, Deuster, Ryan and Doubt, *Undersea Biomedical Research*, March 1990) 16 divers showed an average 40-percent increase in free fatty acids after five day saturation dives that involved exposure to 41-degree water while wearing dry suits.

The study authors suggest, based on subject blood samples, that as core temperature drops, the body releases stress hormones (primarily norepinephrine and epinephrine) that activate the body's fat stores. In addition, the research found a "small but significant" decrease in blood glucose levels. Other cold exposure studies show similar hormone increases; immersions in warm water have found no change in norepinephrine and epinephrine levels. The lesson for divers: Keep warm; the body exhibits physical stress responses when exposed to cold, even without overt symptoms of hypothermia.

Exertion Underwater While diving is relaxing in many ways, thanks partly to the "weightlessness" (neutral buoyancy), you exert yourself more during a dive than you may realize. One study of immersed exercise by the U.S. Navy (Doubt and Smith, *Undersea Biomedical Research*, March 1990) compared the effect of exercise out of water and exercise while submerged. Eight test divers had their heart rates monitored while riding an ergometer, a pedaled device that controlled the divers' work load at 50-, 70- and 90-watt energy-output levels.

Exercise underwater while wearing dry suits raised the heart rate significantly over the same exercise level performed on land. Given resistance caused by water density and by exposure suit restriction, this is hardly surprising. However, heart-rate increase to work-load increase was proportionately greater in water. When dry, the average subject heart rate was approximately 95 for 50 watts work load and 105 at 90 watts—about a 10 percent increase in heart rate to increase energy output 80 percent. When immersed, the average heart rate was approximately 110 at 50 watts and nearly 140 at 90 watts. In other words, the heart-rate increase was three times greater underwater than topside for the same energy-output increase.

The lesson for divers: working harder underwater takes disproportionately more exertion. For example, doubling your swimming speed will take four times the physical effort.

(Continued on page 18)

Experience NITROX and the Bahamas



THE FACTS:

When diving with Nitrox (O₂ enriched air) you can double your bottom time. That means more of what counts. Imagine 100' for 40 minutes with no decompression time.

MEET NEW FRIENDS:

Experience the thrill and wonders of Shark Alley. Feel the thrash of the waters around you as the crowd gathers for lunch.

CALL US TOLL FREE and speak directly with a NITROX Certified Diver for more information or reservations. Complete DIVE PACKAGES AVAILABLE at some of the Bahamas' most exotic hotels and casinos.

THE FUN:

After a full day of exploring the wonders of the clear Bahamian waters you have energy to do the exotic island nightlife. We hear it every day from Nitrox divers, they say they have more energy all day and all night.

THE RESOURCES:

At the Bahamas Nitrox Diving Centre we offer a one day internationally recognized Nitrox Certification Course for open water divers and above.

**BAHAMAS' FIRST
NITROX DIVING CENTRE**

DIVE DIVE DIVE LTD

TOLL FREE FROM THE U.S.

800 368-3483

Extension 606



The Leeward Side of New Providence Island • International Nitrox Registration #001 • I.A.N.D. and A.N.D.I. Certified

WORLD WIDE DIVING

Let the experts at Sea Adventures send you on your next dive trip. See what a difference one phone call can make.

**CALL NOW FOR AIR/LAND
DIVE PACKAGES TO:**

- COZUMEL
- BELIZE
- CAYMANS
- BAHAMAS
- BONAIRE
- AKUMAL
- SEA OF CORTEZ
- LIVE-ABOARDS



GROUP SPECIALISTS

Let Sea Adventures handle your next group. Call now for special group rates.

SEA ADVENTURES

2245 W. Broadway • Mesa, AZ 85202

800-798-2474

SEEK IT!



Proton 3
1,500 ft range,
LCD readout, fish,
150/300 ft cable,
just \$5,995

Seek any iron or steel target and you will find it with this powerful Proton 3 magnetometer, the ultimate boat-towed U/W metal detector. Only from J.W. Fishers, the leader in reasonably priced, high tech underwater electronics. For details and pricing on over 20 products, including the world's finest U/W metal detectors, send for our **COMPLETE FREE CATALOG.**



JW FISHERS MFG. INC.
65 ANTHONY STREET
BERKLEY, MA 02779
1 (800) 822-4744
IN MA (508) 822-7330
FAX: (508) 880-8949

THE BEST IS NOT ALWAYS BIGGER!

Quality Instruction from a More Intimate Agency

The Professional Divers Instructors Corporation (PDIC) has been teaching and developing high quality sport diving instruction for over thirty years world-wide.

PDIC instructors are trained to teach their students to be more skilled, confident and more relaxed to have fun in the water.

As a PDIC instructor, you are part of an agency that will help you make a profit from teaching as well as get satisfaction from your step-by-step scuba instruction.

PDIC offers a complete line of promotional and support materials that will help you with local advertising promotions.

If any problems arise, you can call and consult with PDIC's Director without having to deal with a middleman or a



recorded message.

Open the door to a new, exciting career. Write or call today for more information.

Professional Diving Instructors Corp.

P.O. Box 3633, Scanton, PA 18505 • (717) 342-9434 or 342-1480

Put Something Comfortable In Your Mouth.

1-800-669-BITE
(2483)

RITE BITE MOUTHPIECES™

*The Right Fit.
The Right Feeling
The Right Price.*



DIVE SAFELY®

MAKES A GREAT SCUBA VIDEO GIFT

STUNNING broadcast quality video with beautiful underwater photography, and original music;

VALUABLE information on common and serious safety concerns in SCUBA diving including:

◆ Panic ◆ Air Embolism ◆ Ear Squeeze
◆ Decompression Sickness ◆ Diving Schedules

POWERFUL 3D animation and dramatic underwater sequences reinforce safety fundamentals;

PRODUCED by a team of professionals with experience in diving medicine, research, and instruction;

TO ORDER: Send check or money order for \$39.95 (\$ US) to:
SCUBA ENRICHMENT AND AWARENESS
7704 Random Run Ln., Suite 203
Falls Church, VA 22042-7704

SAVE \$5. FREE PRIORITY SHIPPING

Phone or Fax orders by calling 1-800-398-2395.
Include Name, Address, Phone #, MasterCard
or Visa Card # and Expiration Date.

VA and MD residents include sales tax. • VHS 42 min. • © 1992 SCUBA ENRICHMENT AND AWARENESS

(Continued from page 17)

Another concern regarding dehydration came out of the same tests. After several hours of immersion, the researchers found that subject heart rate tended to increase while maintaining the same work load. Measured oxygen consumption did not go up, indicating that only the heart, not the exercising leg muscles, was working harder. The probable cause was that dehydration had reduced plasma volume. To keep up with tissue oxygen demand, the heart had to circulate the reduced blood volume faster. The lesson for divers: Here's another reason to be sure you remain properly hydrated.

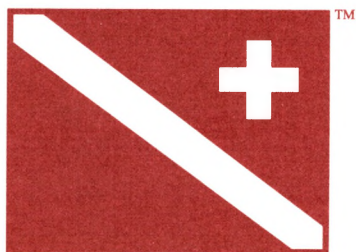
Your heart and limbs aren't the only muscles that may work harder while diving. Simply breathing is harder. With a fixed flow path (you can't reconfigure your respiratory system), gas density and flow speed determine gas flow energy i.e., breathing effort. Increase either density or flow speed and your diaphragm has to work harder to inspire the same volume. In short, the deeper you go and the harder you try to breathe (swimming against a current, for example), the more effort you spend taking each breath.

Complicating matters, as gas density increases, the maximum volume you can expire decreases. Since you can't inhale more than you can exhale, you not only have to work harder to breathe at depth, but you get less air in each breath. The lesson for divers: It's harder to breathe under water and your breath volumes will be smaller. Take it easy and don't get out of breath—you'll have more trouble "catching your breath" than when you're not diving.

Bottom line According to the existing evidence, even on a relaxing peaceful dive, your body is expending more energy than when lying on a relaxing, peaceful hammock. Add long surface swims or treks wearing gear, and it's clear that diving, while relaxing in many environments, is also physically strenuous. Unless you dive three or more times weekly, this means you'll want to keep fit through some other form of regular exercise, based on your physician's recommendations. You don't have to be an Olympic athlete to dive, but you should have good fitness and health. In addition you should plan and execute dives within your physical limits.

Karl Shreeves is PADI's manager of technical development and a contributing editor for Scuba Times Magazine.

Now DAN evacuates members to a treatment center in the event of a diving (or any other medical) emergency . . . free.



This new "no cost" worldwide service is provided by Assist America.

fold

Q: What is DAN?

A: DAN is a non-profit organization dedicated to diving safety. DAN operates a 24 hour emergency medical hotline (919) 684-8111 and a 9-5 medical and safety information hotline (919) 684-2948 among other diving safety services.

DAN is supported by a membership association for safety conscious individuals and diving businesses. DAN is an advocate for divers on issues of safety in diving.

Q: What does Prepared Membership provide?

A: Divers Accident Insurance — covering up to \$30,000 of treatment for any water injury — worldwide.

Safe Diver Information Kit — containing DAN's *Underwater Diving Accident Manual*, wallet identification card and tank and equipment decals.

Alert Diver — DAN's bimonthly newsletter offers the latest information on education, dive safety, seminars and dive research trips.

Q: Why do I need divers insurance?

A: Few divers realize that the result of the bends or air embolism can be debts totaling thousands of dollars.

In many cases, a diver's insurance has not paid for chamber treatment. Air ambu-

lance companies have refused to transport a diver without cash up front.

The cost of hyperbaric chamber treatment varies greatly. Contrary to popular belief, most divers do not recover in a single treatment. The average length of treatment is approximately five days and the cost usually exceeds \$5,000.

The biggest single expense in a diving injury is for transportation. One diver had an air ambulance bill of \$10,000. This is not uncommon.

Lacking the ability to pay, a diver may be refused transport and may be refused treatment.

turn page for more information...

fold

How to Join

Complete the form below for each person joining and send payment to DAN using the postage paid mailer provided or call 1-800-446-2671

Name _____		Address _____		1084
		Day Phone () _____		
Current DAN Member <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes		Member Number _____		
DAN membership:		\$25 per person or \$35 per family	\$ _____	
		Add \$5 for Canadian memberships / \$10 for all other foreign memberships	\$ _____	
DAN Divers Accident Insurance*:		Add \$20 per person for \$15,000 of coverage	\$ _____	
		Add \$25 per person for \$30,000 of coverage	\$ _____	
Type of Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard		TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____	
Card # _____	Card Expiration Date _____	Date _____		
Signature _____		Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____		
		Mo. Day Yr.		
* Insurance is available to U.S. and Canadian residents only. (Residents of Wyoming are not eligible.)		GF-1856 (6/92)	Assoc. # _____	Store — Inst. (Circle One)

Fold and seal with tape

Q: What expenses are covered?

A: For any in-water diving or snorkeling injury, the insurance covers:

- Hyperbaric chamber treatment;
- Physicians' and other fees for diagnostic and laboratory services, physiotherapy;
- Hospital care, service and supplies for treatment of any in-water diving or snorkeling accident.

Q: What does it cost?

A: DAN Membership dues are \$25, plus an additional \$20 for the \$15,000 insurance policy or an additional \$25 for the \$30,000 insurance policy.

Q: Who is eligible?

A: Recreational scuba divers, plus instructors, assistant instructors, and dive-masters (who are instructing or supervising diving activities) provided you are a resident of the U.S. or Canada and are a member of Divers Alert Network or join using this application.

Q: How much expense is covered?

A: The insurance will pay 95% of eligible expenses up to \$15,000 (or up to \$30,000 if you select that plan). This coverage is in excess of any other insurance coverage you may have. However, you need not have any other insurance to be covered by this program.

Policy 8444-001
GS-2789A (6/92)

Q: Are family memberships available?

A: Yes. Follow the directions on the enrollment form. Or call a DAN Account Service Representative TOLL FREE at 1-800-446-2671 for details.

Q: If I further questions, who should I contact?

A: Call TOLL FREE 1-800-446-2671 or write DAN at: Box 3823, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC 27710.



**Be Prepared
Join DAN**

Now... Insurance
Coverage for **ALL**
Water Accidents.
PLUS optional coverage expanded to
\$30,000!

About Assist America

DAN has made arrangements with Assist America—the oldest and most respected evacuation service available—to evacuate you to the nearest medical facility anywhere in the world in the event of a medical emergency. At no cost to you. This benefit would cost over \$240 if purchased separately.

You're covered 24 hours a day, around the world . . . and even for non-diving emergencies.

Assist America also provides many other valuable services to make traveling as easy as possible. Full details are included with membership materials.

fold



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

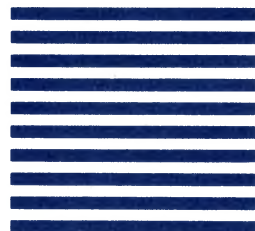
BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 9750 MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Postage will be paid by addressee

Divers Alert Network

Box 907
Minneapolis, MN 55440-9863



High Performance Cylinder Valve Manifolds

Back in the late 1960s, Dr. George Benjamin, Canadian cave diving pioneer, wrestled with ways to improve equipment used in long penetrations into the Bahamian blue holes that he was exploring. His teams were using standard double cylinders with a single regulator mounted on the manifold. In particular, he was concerned that a regulator could malfunction while deep in a cave passage, requiring a long buddy-breathing escape. Even worse was the nightmare of a regular o-ring blown at the manifold valve, allowing the sudden loss of air from the doubles.

He collaborated with research diver Ike Ikehara of the University of Miami and produced a unique "cross-over" air channel plumbed between two cylinder valves. This "Benjamin Conversion" was crudely produced but allowed a diver to mount two regulators and still be able to access the air in each cylinder. If a regulator should develop a problem, it could be isolated by shutting that valve supply off while the remaining air was shunted to the alternate regulator.

In 1989, Sherwood introduced a revolutionary design in valve engineering that goes well beyond Dr. Benjamin's vision. Known as the DIN Double Manifold, this valve system incorporates controls to both regulator o-ring malfunction scenarios and utilization of all remaining air/gas volumes in both cylinders. By employing the German DIN (Deutsches Institut fuer Normung) "captured o-ring" method of regulator mounting (where the regulator first stage is actually screwed into the valve), the possibility of a high pressure o-ring distorting and blowing out are dramatically reduced. DIN is roughly equivalent to the U.S.'s Compressed Gas Association (CGA) and sets standards for a wide variety of valves, regulators and cylinders. In scuba applications, we are talking about the DIN No. 477 valve design that is rated for pressures up to 4351.2 psi or 300 bar.

A distinction must be made between 300 bar DIN and the lesser pressure 200 bar valves that are also available. There is a deliberate design incompatibility between these to prevent improper use.

The DIN Double Manifold does everything that the early cave divers wanted—in spades. By virtue of the DIN fittings, any reasonable expectation of regulator failure at the valve

is eliminated. If the center valve is closed, then the manifold will operate as two isolated cylinders. This means that there would have to be a completely separate regulator attached to each outlet. This gives the diver a very high level of redundancy. If the center valve is opened, the total air volume in each cylinder may be used by breathing on either regulator.

In the event of system failure, either side of the outlets may be independently shut off to isolate the malfunctioning regulator while still allowing the remaining air in the cylinder to be utilized. It's a well designed and engineered product that has become required equipment for most of the technical diving community and increasing numbers of serious advanced divers. It marks a major innovative leap in safety and contingency gas management.

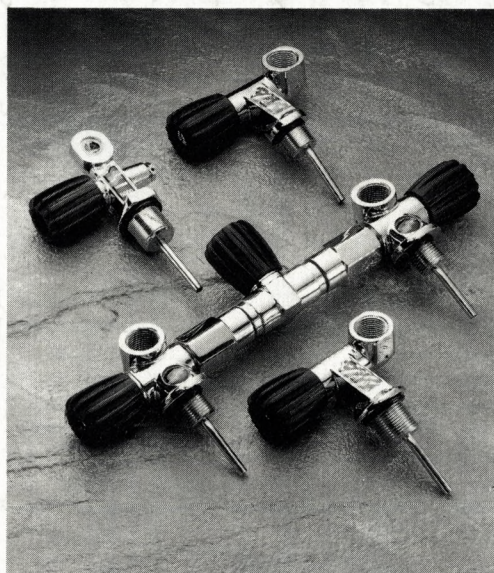
It's available with patented tactile-grip handwheels of oversized rubber or optional low-profile brass handwheels. Divers with standard cylinders may purchase the manifold in a 3/4-inch inlet version. Recommended retail is \$540.00.

Three years after Sherwood's introduction, two manifolds are being unveiled by other manufacturers. According to Beuchat's Robert Quintana, their modular system will be available in December and will include options for DIN or yoke mounting in 200 and 300 bar ratings

with cross-bars sized for 72-, 80- and 100-cubic foot cylinders. Isolation capability is built in, and the units are built with standard 3/4-inch threads, making them compatible with all U.S. cylinders. The modular system allows for conversion to single or double applications; prices are projected to range from \$375.00 to \$450.00.

Dick McNatt of Diver's Supply has been producing his custom manifolds under the name of Sea Elite since August. These also feature a modular design that can be purchased by component to create any number of cylinder packages with full isolation capability. This is of particular interest to divers who have struggled with limited options when three or more cylinders were needed to match the gas volumes to the dive operation. Like Beuchat, these are available in DIN/yoke, 200/300 bar with 3/4-inch threads and are priced from \$300.00 up.

For more information call Diver's Supply at (800) 999-3483 or Beuchat at (800) 248-0005. For information about Sherwood regulators write to 120 Church St. Dept. C, Lockport, NY 14094.



Sherwood's DIN Double Manifold with three single DIN valves and a regular valve.

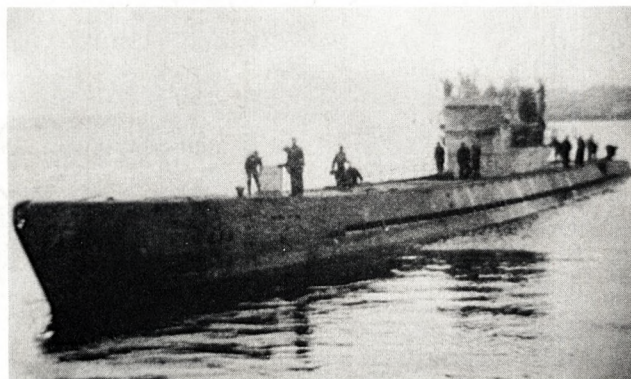
Diving Into War

The quaint New England resort, Block Island, magically materializes each Memorial Day and disappears after Labor Day. Throughout the summer, Block Island is a magnet for scuba enthusiasts because of its abundance of shipwrecks. Many freighters, several submarines, an army tug and a tanker have foundered on the island's storm-battered bluffs or in surrounding waters. Because Block Island lies just twelve and half miles east of Montauk Point, Long Island, New York and fifteen miles from Judith Point, Rhode Island, the waters surrounding the island are an easy run for dive charter boats. It was aboard one such dive boat, the research vessel *Wahoo*, that my dive adventure began.

Professor Henry Keatts, a shipwreck historian, led the expedition to explore and photograph the *U-853*, a WWII submarine sunk in the waters off Block Island. An ABC Eyewitness News team, intrigued by the discovery that WWII naval combat had taken place only seven miles from America's coastline, joined us to document our dive journey for an Eyewitness News television feature.

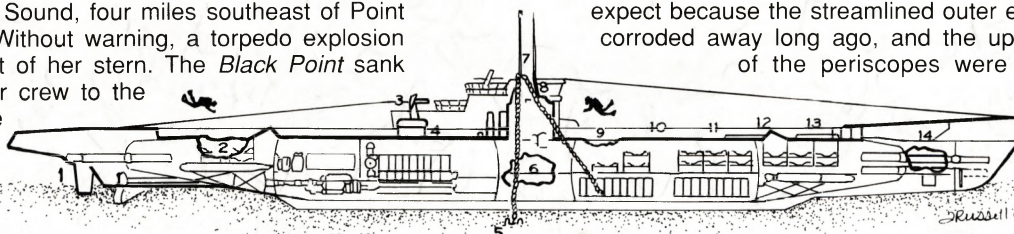
The *U-853* was a Nazi submarine, which was tracked and destroyed during its subversive mission in American waters. The type IXC U-boat was commissioned on June 25, 1943. On February 24, 1945, it headed across the Atlantic for the New England coast. The war in Europe was hurtling toward a close. On the night of May 4, Admiral Doenitz broadcasted the following order: "All U-boats . . . Attention all U-boats. Cease fire at once! Stop all hostile action against Allied shipping. Doenitz." There is no record that the *U-853* ever acknowledged receipt of that order.

During the afternoon of May 5, the *U-853* was cruising at periscope depth east of Block Island. The collier *Black Point*, a 5,353-ton coal carrier, was entering the western end of Rhode Island Sound, four miles southeast of Point Judith at 5:40 p.m. Without warning, a torpedo explosion blasted away 40 feet of her stern. The *Black Point* sank fast, taking 12 of her crew to the bottom with her. The U.S. destroyer *Atherton* located the *U-853* less than three hours



after the *Black Point's* sinking. At 8:29 p.m., the attack began. But not until 10:45 the next morning was the U-boat declared "sunk and on the bottom." Practice attacks continued until 12:24 p.m. There were no survivors. Nine hours and 17 minutes after the last depth charge was dropped on the U-boat, German Chief-of-Staff General Jodl and Admiral Friedeburg, Doenitz's friend and personal representative, signed unconditional surrender papers at Reims, France.

One of the most popular dive sites in New England today, the U-boat lies seven miles due east of Block Island in about 130 feet of water, sitting upright on the sandy bottom. The pressure hull was originally enclosed by a thin steel envelope, designed to streamline the U-boat, but corrosive effects of years under the sea have stripped off most of the outer covering. All wooden decking is gone, exposing a mass of tangled gridwork and pipes. The conning tower is different from what one would expect because the streamlined outer envelope corroded away long ago, and the upper part of the periscopes were cut off.



1. Propellers were removed by divers
2. 15-foot opening into aft torpedo room
3. Deck gun's barrel and flak shield were accidentally torn off in 1981
4. Circular hatch
5. Navy anchor in sand, with the chain draped over the coning tower
6. Opening in the outer hull
7. Periscopes were sawed off by divers
8. Conning tower hatch
9. Four-foot opening into commander's quarters and radio room allows easy access to the control room
10. Circular hatch to the officers' quarters
11. Square hatch into crew's quarters
12. Forward torpedo room hatch
13. Air canister
14. Torpedo tube exposed through hull

Based on diagram from *Dive Into History U-boats* by Keatts and Farr

Only the conning tower's pressure hull and periscope stalks remain.

Several open deck hatches invite the curious to penetrate the *U-853's* interior compartments. Because of the extensive damage caused by the navy's furious attack, there are several other places for divers to enter the hull. Forward of the conning tower, the pressure hull was

blown open and a diver with a set of double air tanks can easily penetrate through the gaping hole. From that point the diver can pass through a circular hatch and enter the control room. Mounted on the stern of the *U-853* was a 37mm anti-aircraft gun, designed to fire 100 shells a minute. Unfortunately, the gun barrel and flak shield were torn off by a boat's mooring line.

The *U-853* is not a dive for the average scuba diver. Extreme caution is imperative when penetrating the close quarters of any submarine, particularly at this depth. Diving the *U-853* is for experienced wreck divers prepared for the complexities of limited bottom time, poor light penetration, extreme thermoclines, monofilament entanglement and the effects of breathing resistance and gas pressures.

The day we dove the *U-853*, the visibility was unusually good—close to 60 feet—and the U-boat was teeming with marine life. The hull, encrusted with jewel-like anemones, was spectacular. The conning tower, a panorama of bass, blackfish, ling and sea ravens, provided excellent photographic opportunities for both video and slides. One curious sea raven, mesmerized by my bright pink scuba mask, even posed eyeball to eyeball with me for close-up shots.

In contrast to its colorful outer structure, the *U-853*'s interior lies shrouded in eerie gloom as witness of the tragedy that befell her 45 years ago. The *U-853* still cloisters the skeletal remains of her crew and is recognized as a German war memorial. The nautical chart of Rhode Island Sound shows a circle seven miles east of Block Island labeled, "Danger. Unexploded depth charge, May 1945." That circle, cryptic monument to the last sea action between the United States and Nazi Germany, marks the tomb of the *U-853*.

Wreck diving is always an exciting adventure, but ships which were sunk in battle infuse wreck diving with an even greater dimension. Divers who familiarize themselves with the research provided by shipwreck historians like Keatts are not merely examining metal and wood beams, ribs, sheathing and fittings. As Keatts relates, "They are exploring a historic relic where men lived and laughed, drank and ate, fought and died." They are, in effect, diving into war.

Hillary Vidars is an avid wreck diver, a NAUI instructor and recipient of the 1991 NAUI Award for Outstanding Service.

DIVE CAMERAS

for beginners

FREE U/W Camera Shopper's Guide
Call Toll Free 800 228 2369

It's easy!

You press the button and
your camera does the rest

Let's Go Diving! St Louis MO (314) 527-6607

The ONLY dive cameras with a Money Back Guarantee

New for '92! Housing kits for most compact cameras.



PADI

DIVEMASTERS *Enjoy Your IDC!*

SMALL CLASSES • SPECIALIZED ATTENTION • FUN



CALL FOR A CATALOGUE
AND COURSE SCHEDULE

FANTASEA Scuba Schools

P.O. BOX 5498
DESTIN, FLORIDA 32541
(904) 837-0732 837-6943 (800) 326-2732



DIVERS WON'T GO DOWN WITHOUT IT



DELMA
OF SWITZERLAND

**1000 ft. tested, 100% Swiss made for men and women,
International guarantee. \$225-\$450 retail.**

DELMA USA LTD., 608 5th. Avenue, New York, New York 10020
(212) 977-7711 FAX (212) 977-7788

DELMA IS ESTABLISHING DEALERSHIPS AROUND THE COUNTRY.
IF INTERESTED FOR YOUR STORE, PLEASE CONTACT DAN BOGUE.

Emergency Oxygen:

How Much is Enough?

Although emergency oxygen training and equipment have recently become available to the diving community, many people are still puzzled by the big question, "How much emergency oxygen should I bring with me on a dive?" Sport divers in remote locations with no on-site medical support, and dive leaders in charge of diving emergencies should have a definitive knowledge of how long a given supply of therapy oxygen will last. An adequate supply of 100-percent oxygen given immediately at the scene of a dive accident can make the difference between a complete recovery or a lifetime of paralysis. In some instances, oxygen has made the difference between life and death.

In the medical community, the "golden hour" describes the critical 60-minute period following a dive accident. The benefits of the emergency care given a victim in that precious envelope of time can never again be duplicated. A well-prepared dive rescue team, therefore, should be equipped with an adequate supply of 100-percent oxygen, capable of oxygenating an accident victim continuously from the recognition of the accident until medical authorities order it discontinued. A good rule of thumb for a rescue team is to have a demand delivery system and carry at least an hour's supply of oxygen for every 30 minutes transport time you plan to be from an emergency medical facility.

Many factors and variables determine how long a gas supply will last a patient, such as the patient's respiratory

rate, the patient's inspiratory volume, the volume of gas in the tank when oxygen delivery is begun and at what residual pressure the tank is replaced, etc. Allowing for these variables, the examples below show figures for gas consumption in the three aluminum cylinder sizes most frequently used in on-site treatment of dive accidents.

In the medical field, oxygen is measured in liters. The D cylinder is 14.6 cubic-feet in size and holds 413.2 liters. The 22.5-cubic-foot Jumbo D holds 636.8 liters. The 24.1-cubic-foot E holds 682 liters.

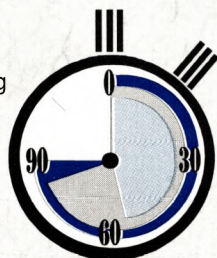
To appreciate these numbers, it is important to distinguish between a constant flow and demand system. Although there are several oxygen delivery systems used by medical professionals, only these two are practical for the lay rescuer. In a constant flow system oxygen is delivered continuously via a plastic supply tubing connected to either a light-weight nasal-oral mask such as a face mask, pocket mask or non-rebreather mask. In a demand system, a two-stage regulator delivers oxygen to a sturdier, tighter fitting oral-nasal mask only when it is needed for ventilations, in the same way your scuba regulator delivers air to your mouthpiece. The demand system is the least likely to waste oxygen or allow surrounding air to leak in and dilute the oxygen. Therefore, it is the only device which can realistically deliver close to 100-percent oxygen.

It should be noted that 10 liters per minute is only a starting point for victims being given oxygen with a constant flow system. Dive accident victims often need a flow

THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES INDICATE THE LENGTH OF TIME A PARTICULAR OXYGEN CYLINDER WILL LAST UNDER VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES.

CIRCUMSTANCES:

A conscious patient breathing from a demand valve inhales .5 liters per breath, 15 times per minute for a total of 7.5 LPM. The oxygen will last 55, 84 or 90 minutes, depending on cylinder size.



CIRCUMSTANCES:

A patient breathing from or being ventilated with constant flow equipment at a 10-LPM flow rate will use the oxygen in 41, 63 or 68 minutes, depending on the cylinder size.



CIRCUMSTANCES:

An unconscious patient ventilated with positive pressure via a demand valve and given an average of 1 liter per ventilation for a total of 12 LPM will use up the oxygen in 34, 53 or 56 minutes, depending on cylinder size.



CIRCUMSTANCES:

A patient breathing from or being ventilated with constant flow equipment at a 25-LPM flow rate will consume the oxygen in 16, 25 or 27 minutes, depending on cylinder size.

rate closer to 25 liters per minute. In several states, such as New Jersey, EMTs and paramedics are taught that if they have to use constant flow devices on victims of acute medical emergencies, they should always start with a flow rate of 25 LPM and work down if necessary. A look at the examples invokes the sobering reality that if demand style oxygen equipment is not available, and you must rely on constant flow equipment, a dive accident victim can empty the D cylinder in only 16 minutes. And remember—these numbers are based on the assumption that only one accident victim needs the oxygen.

While some modern, well-equipped dive boats carry large hospital size oxygen tanks which can hold up to 3,500 liters or many small cylinders, dive boats in remote vacation sites can be quite another story. When planning a dive trip to an unfamiliar area, it is advisable for divers (particularly dive leaders who will be in charge of a group) to call ahead of time and request specific information about the dive boat's first aid and oxygen equipment. If the equipment sounds inadequate, you may have to bring your own emergency equipment or consider booking a different dive operation.

All divers, particularly dive leaders, should have ongoing training in emergency oxygen. Some dive accident management programs include sections on emergency oxygen. There are also specific emergency oxygen training courses available, such as those offered by NAUI, DAN and Lifeguard Systems. Remember, you need to understand not only the why and how of administering oxygen, but also how much. Never skimp when it comes to safety. When in doubt, think of that "golden hour" and whether you can afford to squander one moment of it.

Note: The gas consumption rates in the examples were calculated using the exact cubic foot and liter specifications of the major U.S. cylinder manufacturers—Luxfer, Norris and Pressed Steel.

Hillary Vidars, Ph.D. is a Scuba, CPR and Emergency Oxygen and Dive Accident Management Instructor for NAUI and the National Association of Search and Rescue. She is also an EMT, a member of the Undersea Hyperbaric and Medical Society and the National Association of Diving Medical Technicians, as well as a medical staff member of the IUC hyperbaric chamber in New York City.

☆ Experience ☆ ☆ The Eleuthera ☆ ☆ Adventure ☆

Professional personalized service takes you to The Eleuthera Wall and other unspoiled reefs.

South Eleuthera Divers

☆ ☆ (809) 334-2221 ☆
☆ P.O. Box 1 ☆
Rock Sound, Eleuthera, Bahamas
Contact: Tim Riley

HAL WATTS' "MR. SCUBA"

and
Professional Scuba Assoc. PSA
Offer

300 FEET DEEP DIVING TRAINING

& Underwater Guided Tours

At

"FORTY FATHOM GROTTO"

One of the world's largest caverns

Ocala, Florida

(407) 896-4541 Orlando

(904) 368-7974 Ocala

2219 E. Colonial Dr., Orlando, FL 32803

A G G R E S S O R F L E E T

We're Everywhere You Want to Dive . . .



Aggressor Fleet now has a floating dive resort in seven dream dive destinations. They are just waiting for you to come on board and enjoy the live-aboard luxury and diving freedom that Aggressor Fleet offers.

We'll show you the pristine walls and reefs of Cayos Cochinos, Roatan and Guanaja of the **Honduran Bay Islands**. Experience Lighthouse Reef, the magnificent Blue Hole and 185 miles of barrier reef in **Belize**. And you don't want to miss the schooling hammerheads, white tip sharks, whale sharks, turtles and guaranteed excitement that can be found in **Coco**

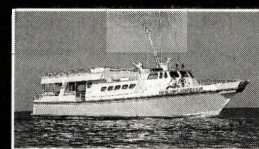
Island. Visit Bloody Bay Wall, Sting Ray City, magnificent vertical walls, canyons and underwater marine parks in the **Cayman Islands**.

And that's not all!

Lava tubes, whales and blue water thrills await you in **Kona, Hawaii**. Explore over 40 WWII wrecks covered with a multitude of soft corals, artillery and artifacts in **Truk Lagoon**.

Don't forget - from the walls of Grand Turk to West Caicos, the **Turks and Caicos Islands** set the perfect stage for some of the finest wilderness diving anywhere.

We are everywhere you want to dive!



BAY ISLANDS OF HONDURAS



BELIZE - CENTRAL AMERICA



COCO ISLAND - COSTA RICA



THE CAYMAN ISLANDS



KONA - HAWAII



TRUK - MICRONESIA



TURKS & CAICOS - BWI

P.O. Drawer K
Morgan City, Louisiana 70381
(504) 385-2628 • Fax (504) 384-0817

800-348-2628



THE ULTIMATE IN LIVE-ABOARDS

Too Close For Comfort

Editor's note: The following article represents a turning point in the life of author Wes Skiles. Skiles, whose cave diving exploits have taken him around the world, has been the Training Chairman of the National Speleological Society Cave Diving Section since 1984. The adventures, or rather misadventures, outlined in this article illustrate an early cave dive by Skiles, which he was not trained to do. He was lucky enough to live to tell about it. However, it epitomizes the need for proper training when involved in any form of technical diving.

It was one of those warm, clear, sunny days at the Florida springs. I had a new friend who was certified, and I knew a great place to show him—a “really cool” cave with lots of “neat” passages. Mark liked the idea, so off we went. I had been cave diving before, so I thought I knew the rules: take a line on a reel, a couple of lights each, and save two thirds of your air to exit on.

After checking our gear and each other, we descended into the cave, reaching a high-flow restriction called the Tonsils. Penetrating the Tonsils was equivalent to swimming into an open fire hydrant. In one spot, the flow was strong enough to rip your mask off if you turned your head to the side. If you looked straight into the flow, the current would purge your regulator and cause a rapid air loss. Experience had taught me to tilt my head slightly downward and to pull along the bottom to pass through the cave's first natural blockage. Just beyond the Tonsils was the most inviting passage I can ever remember looking down. The bottom was hard limestone and free of silt. Beyond lay three different passages, each with their own shape and character. The convoluted walls held limitless shapes and textures that fed my imagination. The floor beyond this junction was colored with a deep orange. This orange color belongs to one of the finest silts on the planet. It is a clay that, when disturbed by an errant fin stroke, can rob a diver of more than just visibility.

Laying out a line from my crude line reel, Mark and I selected the middle tunnel. A hundred feet down this white, Gothic-like hallway we encountered a five-way intersection. The cave was becoming more of a maze. Checking our air, we decided to go a little further. Moving slowly, I continued to observe my buddy behind me. The visibility, although slightly disturbed, remained good between us. What I hadn't seen was how my buddy had been finning the bottom with no real concept of what was happening. Only when I signalled to turn the dive, did I realize the horror we were about to face.

The blackness that swallowed me was so overwhelming

that I felt as if my life was draining from me. My initial thought was, “It's too late, I'm going to die.” Other thoughts like, “They were right” and “This is how it happens” raced through my mind, and rightfully so. We had screwed up, bad.

When in shock or panic, the world you know ceases to exist. It is replaced by a slow-motion world, full of irrational actions. It isn't long before these actions are followed by a senseless flight at high speed into the unknown.

Even with my powerful dive light, I couldn't see my hand in front of my face. The desire to escape the situation was initially overpowering. After a few seconds, the full impact of our situation began to settle. I had to control all my functions, prioritize options and handle everything with absolute calm, if we were going to survive this. I didn't have any other options. I could, from that moment on, concentrate on finding my way out and making my air last, or I could lose it in a blind panic. It was an obvious choice,

Right: Although the cave system at Ginnie Springs has been sealed, divers can safely enjoy the caverns. Photo by Wes Skiles.



but I had to get past the critical microsecond when that urge to panic hits full on. Either you jump on your brain with both feet, or you take off on a one-way ticket to hell.

I sat on the urge, and from that point felt like I had control of myself and the situation. Now, even if I did die in my attempt to exit this underwater nightmare, I would do so under control. The seconds, and then minutes, seemed an eternity as I slowly made my way out, inch by inch. I cursed the slow method I had developed to wind up the line, but I knew I must maintain the procedure.

The next series of events hit me like a freight train, and my newly found calmness slipped away. My buddy had become hopelessly entangled in the line. Cutting the line was out of the question; I had no knife, and even if I did, the possibility of losing the section of line that would lead us out was too great. If I could only see to untangle

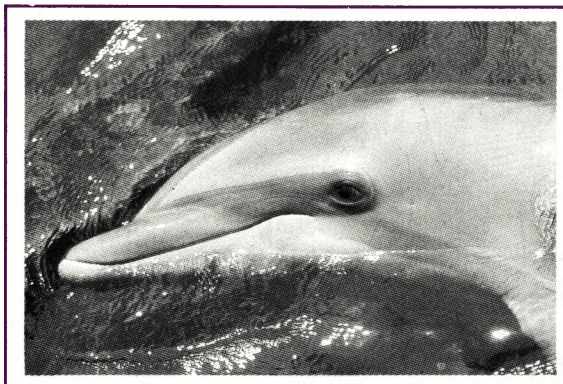
the line from around his legs, we would be home free. After several attempts at untangling, I could sense he was losing control. He was lined up on the tight or flight runway, and he was ready to take off. Then somehow, the line freed itself and Mark took off. It wasn't over yet.

Since we had a line, the way out should have been clear. I say should have been, but because I had not gathered up all of the loose line, Mark was swimming blindly down the passage, tightly holding on to what was equivalent to a well-cooked noodle. Upon arriving at the five-way intersection, the water coming from three of the tunnels was crystal clear. To Mark it was a great relief to be out of the mind-numbing darkness. He was safe; the clear water represented salvation to him. He didn't understand that we would have to follow our silt path back to the surface. Without a thought, he ventured up one of the clear tunnels, still tightly gripping the line, which was now forming a giant "u" bend. I was at one end, the cave entrance at the other, and Mark was pulling the middle of the line down a dead-end passage.

Realizing what was happening, I jerked the line violently, hoping to jog his logic. It didn't happen. Time was running out. Our single tanks were rapidly running low on air. With our options running out, I abandoned the reel and began a strong hand-over-hand towards Mark. I had to get him turned around, or we would both die. Again, we were cast into blackness. When I caught him, I pushed him around 180 degrees and began to ride herd, forcing him to move towards the real exit as fast as we could in zero visibility. The visibility improved as we neared the Tonsils.

The last straw struck seconds later. I guess I knew it was coming, but was hoping it wouldn't. Mark had run out of air. He looked at me with total panic in his eyes and ripped the regulator out of my mouth before I could respond. Since I had no additional second stage, I would have to get him to share the air with me, or one of us was going to drown. It's cruel to say this, but I knew it wasn't going to be me. There was no way I was going to drown after all we had made it through. Keeping my cool, I let him have a few breaths before I grabbed the second stage in his mouth and gave it a gentle but firm tug. At first he held on, even resisted while he gulped another huge breath of our diminishing air supply. Then, as if he had regained
(Continued on page 26)

Some divers don't need a PADI Dive Center...



...but only a few.

Divers like us need the finest in education, equipment and travel. Your PADI Dive Center has it *all*. With quality and convenience like this, you'll feel like you were born to dive.

PADI[®]

Everything diving is at your PADI Dive Center & Training Facility

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NITROX (& TECHNICAL) DIVERS

- The first certification program for breathing gases other than air.
- Diver and instructor certification in EAN Nitrox; Nitrox Technical Diver; Trimix; Advanced Trimix; Gas Mixing; Mixed Gas Overhead Environment Diving.
- International representation by IAND Australia and EATD in Europe.

To insure SUPERIOR EAN & MIXED GAS DIVING EDUCATION from the most experienced professionals worldwide, call, fax or write today for a listing of facilities and instructors near you (international listings available).

Phone/Fax (305) 751-4873

1545 N.E. 104 Street • Miami Shores, FL 33138

founded 1985 by Dick Rutkowski, pioneer of recreational EAN diving



(Continued from page 25)

self-control, he let loose of the second stage to let me have a much-needed series of breaths. From that point on, we defaulted to our basic scuba training and shared the remaining air all the way back to the sunlit safety of the surface.

Mark and I barely spoke of the incident afterward, and we never dove together again. The next day, nearly consumed with fear, I returned alone to Ginnie Springs to remove my abandoned line and reel. I traced the loose line on the floor all the way back to our fiasco without a problem. Picking up the clay-coated reel, I wound up the line and exited the cave. I'm glad I returned right away. During the swim out, I replayed the events of the previous day. I knew I had to change my gear, buddies and techniques. I also now desired formal training more than ever. If I was to continue this pursuit of exploring underwater caves, I couldn't afford to rewrite the rules, lesson by lesson. I simply would not survive them all.

Since that most memorable event, I went on to receive much-needed formal education in cave diving. I also continued to dive, explore and map the Ginnie Springs cave system. During a period between 1974 and 1976, 12 people drowned in Ginnie under circumstances similar to mine. One accident was a quadruple drowning, one of the worst diving tragedies ever recorded. In June, 1976, after assisting in two separate body recoveries, I helped a team of volunteers from the cave diving community permanently seal off the cave system of Ginnie. I still have mixed emotions about losing access to one of my favorite caves, but in the long run it has saved many lives.

Nineteen years later, I look back at my log and wonder why I was the lucky one. I know now the only way to dive safely in a cave is with the proper training and equipment. Even then, there are no guarantees.

Information about cavern or cave diving safety can be obtained from the National Speleological Society-Cave Diving Section at P.O. Box 950, Branford, FL, 32008. For training information contact the National Association for Cave Diving (NACD), at P.O. Box 14492, Gainesville, FL, 32604. Information can also be obtained by calling the author at (904) 454-3556.

Wes Skiles is a cave explorer and former cave diving instructor who now teaches underwater videography and photography.

COZUMEL SCUBA SHACK- SCUBA INN

"Tom Steddum & his wife, Gerri, owners of Scuba Shacks in Midland and Odessa (TX), recently expanded their business by becoming (co) owners (and general managers) of Scuba Inn and Scuba Shack in Cozumel..."

The Steddums, who are both diving professionals, really love Cozumel."

MIDLAND REPORTER TELEGRAM-Aug. 5, 1990

DIVE PACKAGES FROM \$139⁹⁵ P.P.
DBL. OCC. • 3 NIGHTS/4 DAYS

Many other packages available

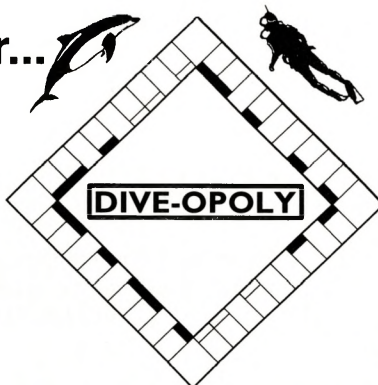
1-800-445-4716
In Cozumel 20145

12 years experience in Cozumel-Division of Caribbean Dive Tours, Inc., Odessa, TX.

**Go directly to
Hyperbaric chamber...
Do not dive...
Do not collect \$200**

*You too
can own
exotic dive
locations!*

**THE
DIVERS
GAME**



Ask your local dive store or call...

A portion of the proceeds from
DIVE-OPOLY go
directly to assist D.A.N.,
the Divers' Alert Network.
11526 Grissom Ln.
Dallas, TX 75229

SCUBA TOOL™
(800) 299-8665
(214) 243-8016

OCTOBER

Monterey. All photographers are invited to enter the 12th Annual California Beach Dive Photo Competition in Monterey, Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18. At 8 a.m. Saturday each entrant will be given a roll of 36-exposure film and will have until 2 p.m. to shoot it during beach dives. That evening the entrants and guests will attend a banquet while the film is being processed. The judging and awards in all categories will take place Sunday. For more information call (415) 421-8111.

Cozumel. For the eighth consecutive year, divers from around the world will gather in October to celebrate the recreation that put Cozumel on the map. This year a toga contest is being added to the famous homemade bikini contest. The 8th Annual Splash promises more parties, prizes and discounts than ever during four weeks of frantic festivity and non-stop diving from October 3 through 31. For more information call Barbachano Tours at (800) 327-2254.

NOVEMBER

Bonaire. The first week of the month will be a celebration of the 30th anniversary of the arrival of Captain Don Stewart to the island. Parties, parades and musical events heralding Captain Don's contributions will be offered by the resorts, restaurants and dive operators. For information call (800) 826-6247.

Chattanooga. The Scuba Convention November 13 through 15 marks the 33rd year for YMCA scuba programs. It's a family affair hosted at the Radison Read House with plenty of activities planned for spouses and children of attendees. For more information call (404) 662-5172.

Ottawa. Buddy Up is the theme of the combined attraction of Scuba Celebration '92 and the Ottawa Ski Show on November 6 through 8 at the Sprung Pavilion in Lansdowne Park. For more information call (613) 235-9316.

Duluth. "Gales of November" will be held on November 14 and 15 to benefit

research and education at the Lake Superior Center. Shipwrecks in Lake Superior, ecological concerns of the Great Lakes and diving in Minnesota will be the topics of seven speakers at the Saturday program which concludes with an evening banquet. On Sunday a train trip along the north shore is scheduled with a narrator pointing out notable shipwrecks and divesites. Tickets are \$10. For more information call Innerspace Productions (218) 729-9028.

JANUARY

Orlando. "Tek '93, An Emerging Dive Technologies Conference" will be held January 18-19. Workshops will include topics such as decompression management, deep diving safety, closed-circuit breathing systems, full face masks and communication systems. For more information call (215) 579-2076.

Calendar items of interest to divers are being sought for future issues. Mail news items five months prior to the event to 14110 Perdido Key Drive, Suite 16, Pensacola, FL 32507.

372 Hammer Head Shark Pendant \$330

373 Jumping Shark Pendant \$215

395 Dive Fin Pendant \$135

396 Two Tone Dive Knife Pendant \$125

397 Two Tone Scuba Tank Pendant \$260

398 Enamelled Dive Flag Pendant \$115

374 Shark Pendant \$185

345 Lg Sea Turtle Pendant \$245

269 4 Escudo Replica Pendant \$245

384 Florida Lobster Pendant \$315

357 Sm Sea Turtle Pendant \$135

388 Sm Angel Fish Pendant \$110

383 Lg Angel Fish Pendant \$240

255 Conch Shell Pendant \$230

386 Manta Ray Pendant \$155

564 Mother/Baby Dolphin Pendant \$95

385 Maine Lobster Pendant \$235

399 Two Tone Dive Mask Pendant \$95

All designs 14k solid gold
Shown actual size

NO RISK MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

©1992 GOLDMASTERS USA™

ORDER FROM US 1-800-343-4653

or through your jeweler

Add \$4.50 for Shipping & Insurance

Next Day Air & 2nd Day Air extra charge

Florida Residents Add 6% Sales Tax

Money Orders &

Checks Accepted



GOLDMASTERS USA™

1555 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd., #1206

West Palm Beach, FL 33401

24 HOUR ORDERING

1-800-343-4653

407-689-3013

Out of Control

BY
MARTY SNYDERMAN

Needing something to jump start my creative engine, I headed for the Solomon Islands for 10 days of diving aboard the *Bilikiki*, where I was sure I would spend some magic moments with a manta ray, shark or dolphin. Day one, dive one, I realized I might have a little problem. We had beautiful weather and flat calm seas, but the visibility was low. I'm talking 30 feet. Somewhere into day three or four I realized that it was unlikely conditions were going to improve by any substantial degree. Happens everywhere at some time or another, and this trip it was happening to me. Low vis in a tropical paradise. Once again I faced the realization that you pay your money and make the best of it. No one controls the conditions.

I decided to concentrate on macro photography and let the wide angle work go until some future trip. I suppose if this sort of misfortune is going to occur, the Solomon Islands are not a bad place for it to happen. It is a macro paradise—biotic and exotic. Recognizing the diversity is fundamental to appreciating the flavor of diving in the Solomons. Nearly 600 species of corals can be found in the waters of the Solomons, compared to only 50 or so in the Caribbean. Everywhere I looked I saw something I wanted to photograph—colorful reef fishes flittering all about, a myriad of nudibranchs, crinoids, hard corals, soft corals and sea fans of every hue imaginable, tunicates and clownfish galore.

On the next to the last day of our trip we visited a village of about 100 people. I thought it might be a pleasant diversion, and my ears could use the break from diving, but I had no idea what a treat I was in for.

This village was in the middle of nowhere. We were greeted by an enthusiastic crowd the minute we set foot

off our dinghies. The poverty of the villagers was impossible to hide. I tried to imagine what they must think when they see a boat load of people who will spend more on their 10-day vacation than these people and their families will ever make in their lifetimes. But they had stopped their day and put their best foot forward.

A half dozen boys with painted bodies dressed in warrior costumes. They jumped us at the beach, feigning an attack on our group with spears and clubs, while the rest of the villagers howled with laughter.

Then their chief, a man named Raymond, gathered us together to greet us. The language of the Solomons is Pidgin English. Chief Raymond was no polished public speaker, but it was immediately obvious that his words came from his heart. He told us that he wanted to "sincerely and extremely welcome us,"



and that he was very proud of his village and very proud to have us as his guests. He hoped that "someday our very different people will better understand each other."

I wondered how long it had been since I heard such sincerity from a political leader in my country. Maybe I'm a little jaded, but the thought that Raymond was offering to serve us, rather than offering lip service seemed kind of novel to me.

The villagers invited us into their community to dance and sing for us. First the men performed, and then the women. They were all decked out in their traditional dress, and they performed for the sheer pleasure of it all. Perfectly choreographed? No. Joyous? Absolutely. I glanced around at the villagers and saw

ear-to-ear grins on many, especially the chocolate-skinned, blonde-haired boys who had mock attacked us on the beach. They had been a big hit, and they richly deserved their feelings of satisfaction. Their efforts were being duly acknowledged by the rest of their clan.

Raymond and his people had nothing to sell to tourists. His greeting and all of the entertainment were simply gestures of friendship. I couldn't help but shudder when I thought about how these people might be received if they showed up in my neighborhood. It made me ponder who has what to learn from whom.

Later that day as we headed down the lagoon to our next dive site, the crew spotted a salt water crocodile from the deck of the *Bilikiki*. We stopped the boat



Opposite page top: A trumpetfish makes himself scarce in a sea fan, proving you don't have to be big and bad to catch a photographer's eye.

Opposite page bottom: Fierce looks are but a farce as these Solomon Islanders greet visitors with a raucous dance.

Left: Like a gargoyle of the deep, a crocodile fish lounges on the ocean floor.

Bottom: A school of barracuda, gleaming tooth and mail, cruise the currents around the Solomon Islands in search of prey.



and went out in the dinghies to take a closer look. Salt water crocodiles are on the brink of extinction, and chance encounters are rare indeed. Over the next hour we played hide and seek with the croc. The water was table flat, but still it was difficult to spot the crocodile when it surfaced. Only its nostrils and eyes broke the surface.

Salt water crocodiles have a reputation for being wary and aggressive. I have always placed them in a group with leopard seals and polar bears. The common link: if I see one, I get out of the water. But to spend an hour or so watching an endangered species—a cunning predator—in its natural habitat is an experience few ever get to enjoy. Dangerous as they might be, it is sad to

think that the last of the estimated 800 salt water crocodiles in the Solomon Islands will almost certainly perish before long.

The following evening, as we sailed into port, a crewman named Enoch and I sat up late into the night sharing our lives and thoughts. I learned that Enoch had never traveled out of the Solomons. He is the first person in his family to speak English. He hopes his daughter, Angelita, will be the first person in his family to go to college. Enoch worries about whether he will be able to afford to send her if she is accepted. He told me he is hoping for her to take his family to new heights.

I told Enoch that my father had been in the South Pacific during World War II, and he told me his father had spied on the Japanese, paddling his canoe through the night at great peril to tell the Americans what he knew. We saw a similar canoe being carved out of a great tree in Raymond's village.

Later our conversation turned toward the stars, and Enoch asked me if I thought there were other people living on some far away planet, a likelihood I have often wondered about a half a world away. It seemed strange, yet comforting, to realize how closely we were linked in history and in thought. Maybe something as simple as a trip to a village or a late-night conversation under the stars will indeed allow people from different cultures to better understand each other.

When you travel as much as I do,

sometimes with jet lag, loss of sleep and long hours in the water, the days blend and memories blur. Sometimes I can't even recall basic details of my dives with sharks, whales and manta rays. But that won't happen with moments as compelling as the ones from my adventures in the Solomon Islands.

Okay, so this piece is not about my underwater adventures. But I never would have enjoyed my visit to the village or spent an afternoon watching a crocodile in the wild or talked to a Solomon Islander named Enoch whose father fought in a war with my father, if it wasn't for diving. The simple, yet gripping events of my trip reinforced in me that the adventure in diving isn't just the time spent under water. The whole aura around diving is an adventure. Diving takes us to unusual places and enables us to see life with insights that others may never enjoy.

Sure there are moments with great white sharks and humpback whales, and I am grateful for them. But diving is not something great to do only when the conditions are at their best. Diving is something we do over a lifetime. If we just go with life's current, odds are that even when conditions are not their best, there is still plenty in diving to enjoy. Thank God for that. ■

Residing in San Diego, Marty Snyderman is a contributing editor for Scuba Times Magazine.

Grave Mystery

Even for Cousteau divers, this is no ordinary dive. Their destination is an underwater cave whose entrance lies between 160 and 185 feet down and whose length is estimated to be 600 feet. In the dark stillness of its submarine passages lie the skeletal remains of four short-finned pilot whales. How did they get there? How old are they? Nobody knows, but Jean-Michel Cousteau is intrigued. It is to explore and film this cave with its macabre contents that he has dispatched a team to a remote island in Fiji. It will be the first time anyone has taken 35mm motion picture footage inside a cave that fewer than a dozen humans have seen.

Inside the cave's throat at a depth of about 110 feet, expedition leader Don Santee and chief cinematographer Michael Deloire encounter the first pilot whale skull. Embedded in sediment and heavily encrusted, it is distinguishable only by its shape. The rocky substrate has claimed it as its own.

Passing the first skull, the divers wonder how one of the ocean's larger creatures found this unlikely tomb. What may have lured it inside, and why did it stay? But they cannot dwell on the intrigue; there is more cave to explore, and every minute under water compounds the decompression time, delaying the return to the surface.

They follow the ascending incline, their lights revealing colonies of wriggling antennae along the limestone ledges—appendages of a fearless group of resident lobsters. At 90 feet, the divers make a left turn and see the second skull, not as encrusted as the first. Upside down and toothless, it faces the cave's entrance far below. Again the questions: How? Why? A small orange fish has taken up residence inside the skull—the living finding a habitat among the dead.

Getting to the last two skulls is trickier. Santee and Deloire know they must turn around, come back down 30 or 40 feet, turn right and then go up a narrow,

vertical chimney about 30 feet to reach the top chamber where the skulls rest. Unfamiliar with the cave, they start up one chimney only to discover it dead-ends. For an instant, they are stuck, dive tanks scraping the side; but they back out, retrace their steps and locate the chimney that gives access to the small chamber above. Santee notices cracks throughout the cave; rocks appear to have fallen from the ceiling onto the bones, evidence of geologic movement, and as the team would learn, earthquakes.

Two openings into the top chamber are discovered by Santee and Deloire. There they see the heads, stark white, smaller than the two below, and as smooth as boiled chicken bones. Like the first skull, these are also upside down, toothless and facing the entrance far below. The vertebrae next to one indicate a juvenile animal. Perhaps the pair were playfully exploring and found themselves inside the cave. It would have been natural for them to swim upwards, usually the direction to the surface and to air for marine mammals. But how they got up a chimney that is too narrow even for two divers is inexplicable.

Aboard *Alcyone*, Santee and Deloire share their observations with the rest of the team and begin planning the real work of filming. It is clear that the cave is not 600 feet long; measurements the next day confirm it is actually 215 feet long. Although still technically demanding, the dive will be less complex than they had anticipated.

For the next 12 days, the team makes one dive a day, staying inside the cave for 40 to 60 minutes, at times decompressing for more than two hours. There are four minutes of film in each of two cameras, making it possible to obtain a maximum of only eight minutes of film on each dive. Filming must be done on the first pass, for the slightest touch of a fin can stir the sediment.

One day, while hanging at the 10-foot



Marc Blessington hangs upside down in the narrow chimney leading to one of the pilot whale skulls, which is also upside down. Photo courtesy of The Cousteau Society.

level, diver Steve Arrington and Deloire hear a sound that they remember well from the underwater eruption at Kilauea Ridge in Hawaii. At this moment, inside the cave, Santee hears a "deadened thump," but he doesn't think of it as an earthquake. Later, on board *Alcyone*, the divers hear a radio report of a 3.6 earthquake in the area, and their imaginations play a "what if" game. What if the cave once had other openings? What if the animals were suddenly trapped inside by falling rocks triggered by an earthquake?

There are far more questions than answers to the mysteries of this cave. Like other unsolved mysteries, it will continue to spark the imagination. One cannot help returning to the unlikely juxtaposition of whales and corals. The reef, made by some of the sea's smallest animals, has claimed some of the largest, entombed together. ■

—**Mary Batten with Stephen Arrington, Marc Blessington and Don Santee**

Reprinted by permission of the Cousteau Society, Inc., © 1992



Whether you're a vacation snorkeler or a serious professional diver, your mask is the most important piece of equipment you'll ever own. The right fit—and the right mask—can make the difference between hours of frustration and hours of fun.

So take the time to try on several masks. Put the mask over your nose and eyes and breathe in. When it stays in place with a perfect seal, you've found the right fit.

If you have lots of facial hair, you should look for a good crystal silicone skirt. The feathered edges on TUSA masks make for a particularly good fit.

If you have a small face, you may find a twin-lens mask, like the Liberator, fits best. If you need vision correction, this mask has snap-in lenses already made in your prescription.

If you don't like any water in your mask, you should try the new Hyperdry mask, with a

hands-free purge valve to clear it any time.

Serious divers may look for the increased peripheral vision found in a Hyperform mask.

Every diver should look for a comfortable fit—and the new swivels on TUSA masks make them easy to adjust to any size or preference.



And fins.

There's only one reason to use any fin—and that's increased power with the least effort. Most dive shops recommend a flexible fin, like the new Hyperform. Layered construction and the best materials make this a fin that can stand up to all kinds of conditions and last for years.

Check that straps and buckles are easy to slip into, easy to



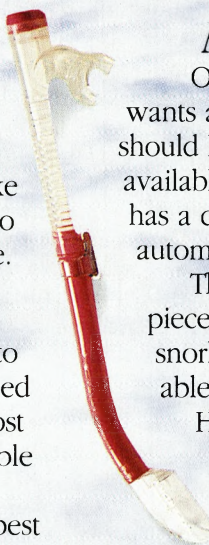
release, and easy on your ankles. Then don't forget to match the colors to the rest of your gear.

And snorkels.

Of course, every snorkeler wants air, not water, so you should look for the driest system available. The Hyperdry snorkel has a double valve for easy, automatic clearing.

Then check that the mouth-piece fits comfortably with the snorkel at the most comfortable angle. Hyperdry and Hyperform snorkels both have a choice of mouth-pieces and a swivel to adjust to your face and style.

Actually, fitting all your diving gear is a fairly simple process. Start at a good dive shop, take your time, and ask for TUSA.



TUSA

LES SCUBERABLES

It's 9:40 p.m. at the Imperial theatre on Broadway where a production of *Les Miserables* has just come to intermission. My dive buddy, Dann Fink, is fresh from his first trip to Grand Cayman, and a few of us gather around to look at his pictures. The stage manager calls, "Five minutes to places," for the top of the second act. Another impromptu meeting of Les Scuberables comes to an end.

People who love to dive will form groups just about anywhere, so it should not be odd that a small sect of us thrive in the cement sea of New York on the Great White Way.

Les Scuberables was formed in July 1990 in San Francisco after a group of us from the show became certified through the Bamboo Reef Dive Shop. Our instructor was Tom Stone, a man so full of joy and love for the sea that he made some of us want to know more.

Our open water dives were held in Whaler's Cove at the Point Lobos National Marine Sanctuary in Monterey. The cold, spectacular reality of the kelp forest quickly separated those who would from those who would not be returning to the sea. Dann and I went on to advanced PADI training and logged many memorable stories before the San Francisco company of the show closed in February 1991. I went on to new adventures, and the group seemed reduced to nothing more than a T-shirt and some memories.

As fate would have it, I moved to New York City and made my Broadway debut as Montparnasse in *Les Miserables*. Imagine my surprise to find that Dann had joined the company prior to my arrival. With our combined enthusiasm, Les Scuberables was reborn. We are planning a trip in March to Truk Lagoon and Palua. Tom Stone, our instructor and friend, will be joining us. In the meantime, we wait for the Atlantic to warm up so we can explore the wrecks off Long Island.

As an actor, I explore the vastness of the human condition. As a diver, I explore a world of infinite beauty. I'm not sure which one I love more. At times I'm not sure which world I belong to: the stage or the sea.

—Liam O'Brien



Les Scubérables

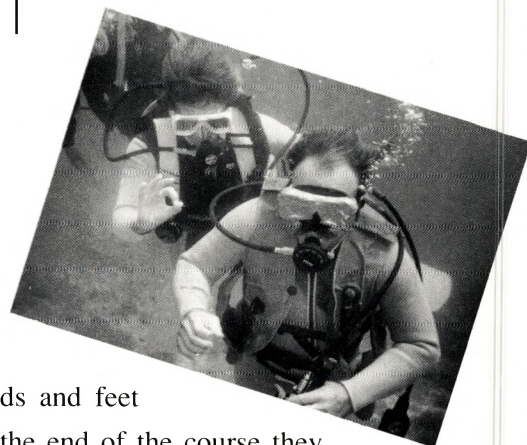
LOOK IT UP

If you've been looking for a copy of the 1948 postcard with the caption, "Prof. Piccard Prepares to Plunge" or a 1966 issue of *Popular Mechanics* that ran a story titled "Scuba Diving Fire Eaters," you're in luck. They are both listed in the second edition of *The Diver's and Water-sportman's Library* by David Way of Devon, England. Books, magazines, greeting cards, cigarette cards, virtually anything that has survived from the early days of dive publishing can be found in its pages. Pencil sketches and a handwritten addendum of items listed too late for the printer give the catalogue a homegrown look. Readers are invited to send the publisher their "want lists" as well as items they would like to sell, so that the catalogue will eventually become a resource for collectors of early dive history. Send inquiries to 10 Cedar Road; Preston, Paignton; Devon, TQ3 2DD, England, or call (0803) 551840. ■

COURSE WITH A CAUSE

Imagine experiencing the cool depths of the ocean minus the use of your arms, legs and sight. Five scuba instructors did just that recently when they took the Handicapped Scuba Association (HSA) Instructor Training Course with Red Sail Sports in Aruba. They wore masks covered with duct tape to simulate blindness. They dove with their hands and feet bound to understand the obstacles a paraplegic or quadriplegic faces. At the end of the course they were certified by HSA to introduce disabled students to the joys of diving.

The Handicapped Scuba Association has been educating the scuba diving industry and people with disabilities since 1975. In their unique classes, physically challenged and able-bodied students receive training together. Red Sail Sports now offers open water certification for disabled students at their Grand Cayman and Aruba facilities. For more information call (800) 255-6425. ■



DIVERSIONS



DIVERS DOWN CORNER

Living vicariously through the wonders of television has become a way of life to a generation who grew up cooking with Julia, exercising with Lila and spying on the intimate rituals of wildlife with Marlin. Since 1986, approximately 60 million viewers have been diving with Mark. No muss, no fuss, no water in your ears—just tune in to one of five cable sports networks to dive the reefs, wrecks and rockpiles of famous and little-known destinations.

Divers Down is the venture of Mark Stanton who also hosts the 30-minute weekly series. In the first 85 episodes viewers have “dove” with Stanton from Nova Scotia to the Bahamas and as far west as Arizona. Having recently been accepted for airing on networks covering the Pacific states, the show is now exploring California dive sites.

Within the episodes, the audience may be treated to a visit from Mr. Gadget (Bill Walker) with diving tips, product reviews or safety information. Herb Segars hosts another segment called Snapshot where he assists viewers in developing their own photo techniques. The Topside Explorer portion takes the viewers on a five-minute spin to the local resorts, restaurants, nature sights and cultural attractions.

Nine more networks have agreed to air the series, closing in on Stanton’s goal to eventually find a spot on all of the regional sports networks. Spurred by the success, Stanton has expanded

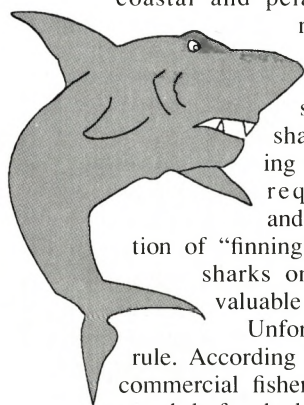
audience participation from just passive viewing. In response to hundreds of letters from fans anxious to be on the show, *Divers Down* has initiated its Come-Along Travel Program. Divers and non-divers can purchase a spot on the crew for a week of taping. They serve as talent extras in underwater and topside scenes complete with their names listed in the credits of that episode. A VHS copy of the telecast is sent to each Come-Along guest.

Providing realistic accounts of scuba diving is still the main attraction of the show, with dive action on board the vessel or beneath the surface providing a major portion of each episode. If you want to keep up with *Divers Down*, you can get a free newsletter by writing to *Divers Down Newsletter*, P.O. Box 288, Halifax, MA 02338. ■

PLAN LOSES TEETH

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has released the proposed rule for managing sharks in the Atlantic Ocean, which would regulate shark fishing in federal waters of the Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea.

The plan groups 39 shark species into three management categories: small coastal, large coastal and pelagic sharks. Proposed management measures include annual commercial quotas for large coastal and pelagic sharks, recreational bag limits, a minimum size for mako sharks, permitting and reporting requirements, and the prohibition of “finning” (harvesting sharks only for their



valuable fins and returning the disabled animals to the sea).

Unfortunately, a major management measure which was part of the plan is missing in the recent proposed rule. According to NMFS, catches in the large coastal category have exceeded resource production since 1987, and a commercial fishery closure was deemed necessary to stop overfishing and begin the rebuilding program. The plan’s second draft scheduled such a closure from October 1991 until July 1992. Delays upset this schedule and the “necessary” measure was quietly omitted from the recent rule.

The large coastal category contains the Atlantic’s rarest sharks: whale, white and basking. Other large coastal sharks include the principal species taken in the directed shark fishery such as blacktip, tiger, bull, nurse, lemon and hammerhead. ■

Networks Currently Airing Divers Down

New England Sports Network	Saturday —9:30 a.m., Monday—6:00 p.m. and Wednesday —12:30 p.m.
Arizona Sports Program Network	Sunday—8:30 a.m.
Pro Am Sports System	Sunday—10:00 p.m.
Madison Square Garden Network	Variable schedule in prime time spots
Resort Sports Network	Twice weekly on affiliate stations between 4 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Networks That Have Accepted Divers Down for Upcoming Seasons

Home Team Sports	Mid-Atlantic states
Florida Sunshine Network	Florida
Prime Ticket	Southern California, Hawaii, Nevada, Arizona
Prime Sports Northwest	Oregon, Washington, Idaho
Prime Sports Network Upper Midwest	Iowa, W. Wisconsin, Minnesota, S & N Dakota
Prime Sports Network Midwest	Indiana, SW Ohio, Kentucky, S. Illinois
Prime Sports Network Inter-Mountain West	W. Montana, S. Idaho, Utah, W. Wyoming, NE Nevada
Prime Sports Network Rocky Mountain	N. New Mexico, Colorado, E. Wyoming, E. Montana, Nebraska, Kansas
KBL Network	N. Ohio, W. Pennsylvania, W. Virginia

CURAÇAO



Princess Beach

RESORT & CASINO
CURACAO, NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

202 air-conditioned rooms await you at this full service resort, located on a kilometer long white sand beach, next to the Curacao Seaquarium. Dive on the Underwater Park; Reef, Wreck, Shore, and Boat dives. Dive packages available for the beginner to the expert.

FOR SERIOUS FUN...



1-800-932-6237

FOR RESERVATIONS:

DUTCH CARIBBEAN RESORTS
1-800-DCR-3286 or 305-441-8951

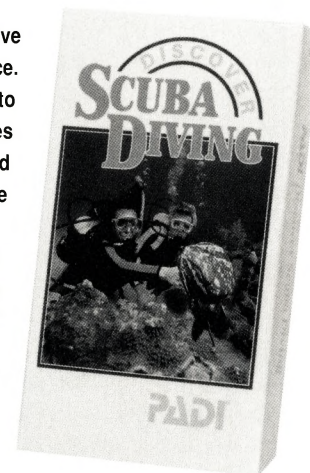
Sales and Marketing:
Travel Marketing Concepts, Ltd.
(203) 831-0682

DIVERSIONS

PADI ON THE MOVE

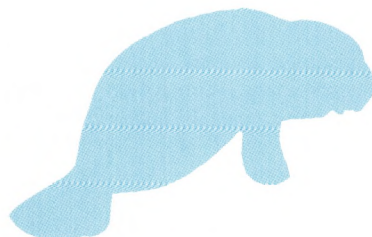
PADI has been making news throughout this year with new dive products and services covering every area from fashions to insurance. This time it's a new video, *Discover Scuba Diving*. Designed to introduce non-divers to the sport, the 25-minute program features spectacular underwater footage shot in Grand Cayman and the United States. The video is available through more than 1,800 PADI dive centers and resorts around the world.

Speaking of the world, the PADI Travel Network has added 21 new destinations to its roster of dive-oriented resorts in the Caribbean for a total of more than 130 resorts or live-aboard vacation options worldwide. They are all described in detail in the newly revised resort guide, *Dive Traveler-Caribbean* and *The Exotic World of Diving*. For free copies of these two publications stop by any PADI dive center. For a free list of PADI dive centers write PADI at 1251 E. Dyer Rd. #100, Santa Ana, CA 92705-5605. ▀



WILD GETAWAY

Loggerhead turtles, roseate spoonbills, manatees and tiny Key deer are some of the endangered animals who frequent Little Palm Island three miles off the lower Florida Keys. What makes their visits so astounding is the fact that the small private island is also a small luxury resort. Guests enjoy such wild recreation as betting on whether the turtle eggs or heron eggs will be the first to hatch. A pair of wild parrots, named Henry and Bess in honor of the Trumans who once visited, fly in for breakfast and dinner (without reservations) on the deck in front of the dining room. A pole on top of one of the 30 guest bungalows is the favorite roost of an osprey who enjoys the aerial view while he eats a fresh catch of mullet. A myriad of fish leap and play at the surface, promising divers and snorkelers that countless more wait beneath the surface. For more information call (800) 3-GET-LOST. ▀



RESORT NEWS

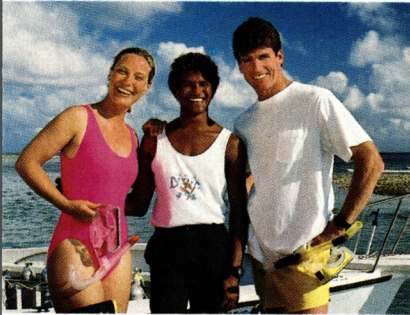
The choice is yours at Bob Soto's Diving in Grand Cayman. Two new programs cover divers from novice to advanced levels. The Gold Card Program gives divers the freedom to explore the reefs at their own leisure and avoid follow-the-leader syndrome. It is required that each buddy team have a computer and adhere to a depth limit of 100 feet. They must also exhibit good buoyancy, navigational skills and air consumption. The Double-Shallow Program is designed to give divers extra bottom time on two medium-shallow dives (guided or unguided). This program is recommended for either novices or photographers. For more information call (800) BOB-SOTO.

Marathon Undersea Adventures is the newest dive resort in the chain of Neal Watson's affiliates. Located at Buccaneer Resort on Marathon Key, it offers 50 cottages and 26 villas complete with beach, tennis courts, fresh water swimming pool, restaurant and bar overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. The dive shop and boats are located on the premises for convenient equipment rental, instructions and air fills. For more information call (800) 327-8150.

Turneffe Island Lodge in Belize has expanded with four new cabanas, now giving the resort a 24-guest capacity. In addition, they have added a 48-foot custom-designed, high-speed dive boat. *Bodacious* will make quick work of island transfers and reaching those remote, pristine dive sites that abound off the coast of Belize. For more information call (800) 338-8149. ▀

(For more Diversions turn to page 80)

From the first moment you enter the crystal clear waters of The Cayman Islands, you'll be surrounded by excitement.



The skies smiled down on us. The sunlit waters merrily beckoned. And we entered the calmest turquoise waters we'd ever seen.

As in a child's storybook, the fish glided forth to welcome us.

Then as if by magic, the gentle inhabitants of Stingray City appeared. And thus began a wonderful close encounter.

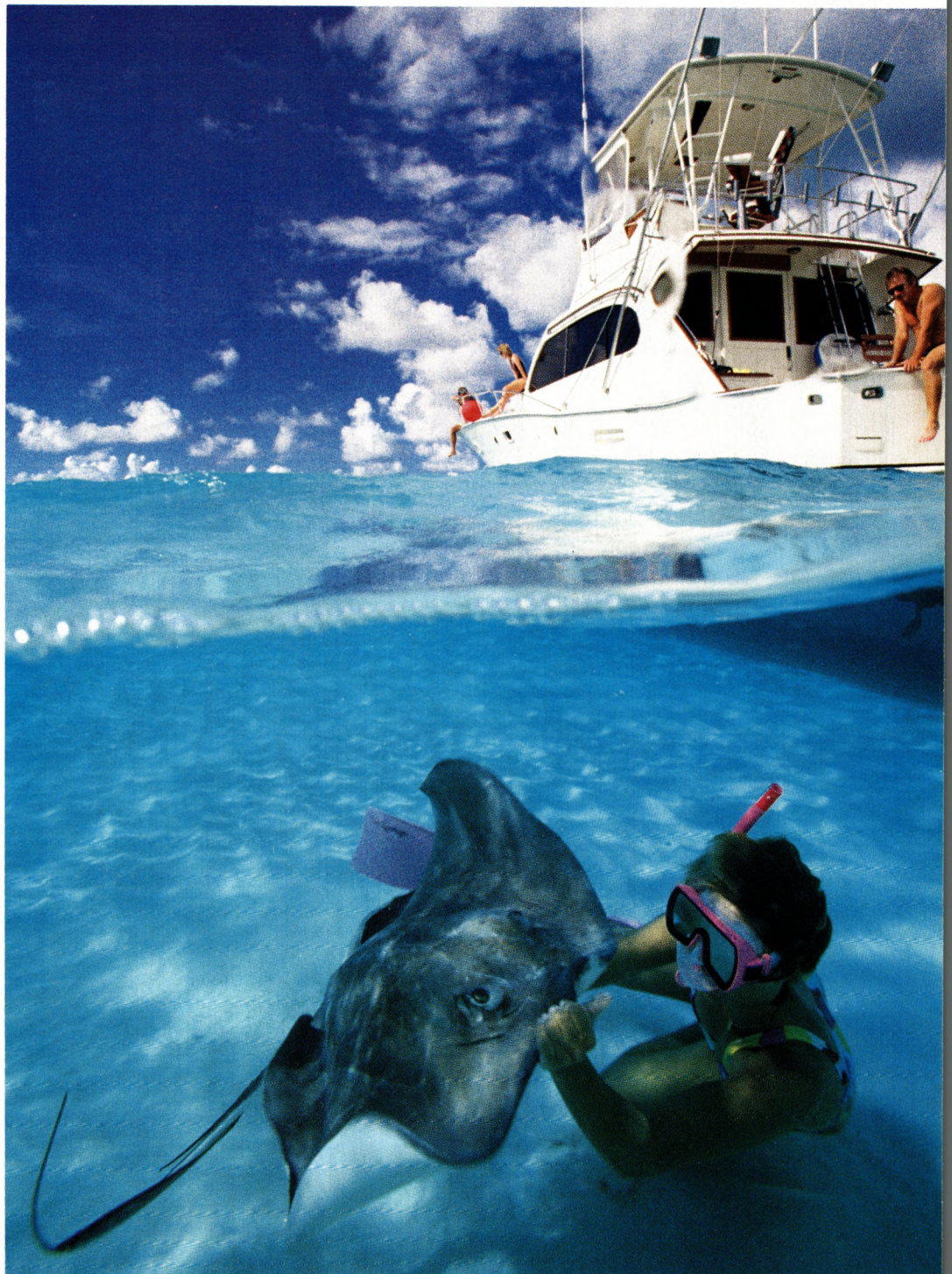
This magical island trio has other wonders. Stretches of soft, sparkling beaches. Extraordinary diving. Fabulous fishing.

And the warmest, most thoughtful people in the British Caribbean.

Fly nonstop to this island trio via Cayman Airways' comfortable 737 jet service.

For reservations, call your travel agent. For information, call 1-800-346-3313.

No matter where you go in The Cayman Islands, you feel right at home. From the first moment.



CAYMAN ISLANDS

"Those who know us, love us."

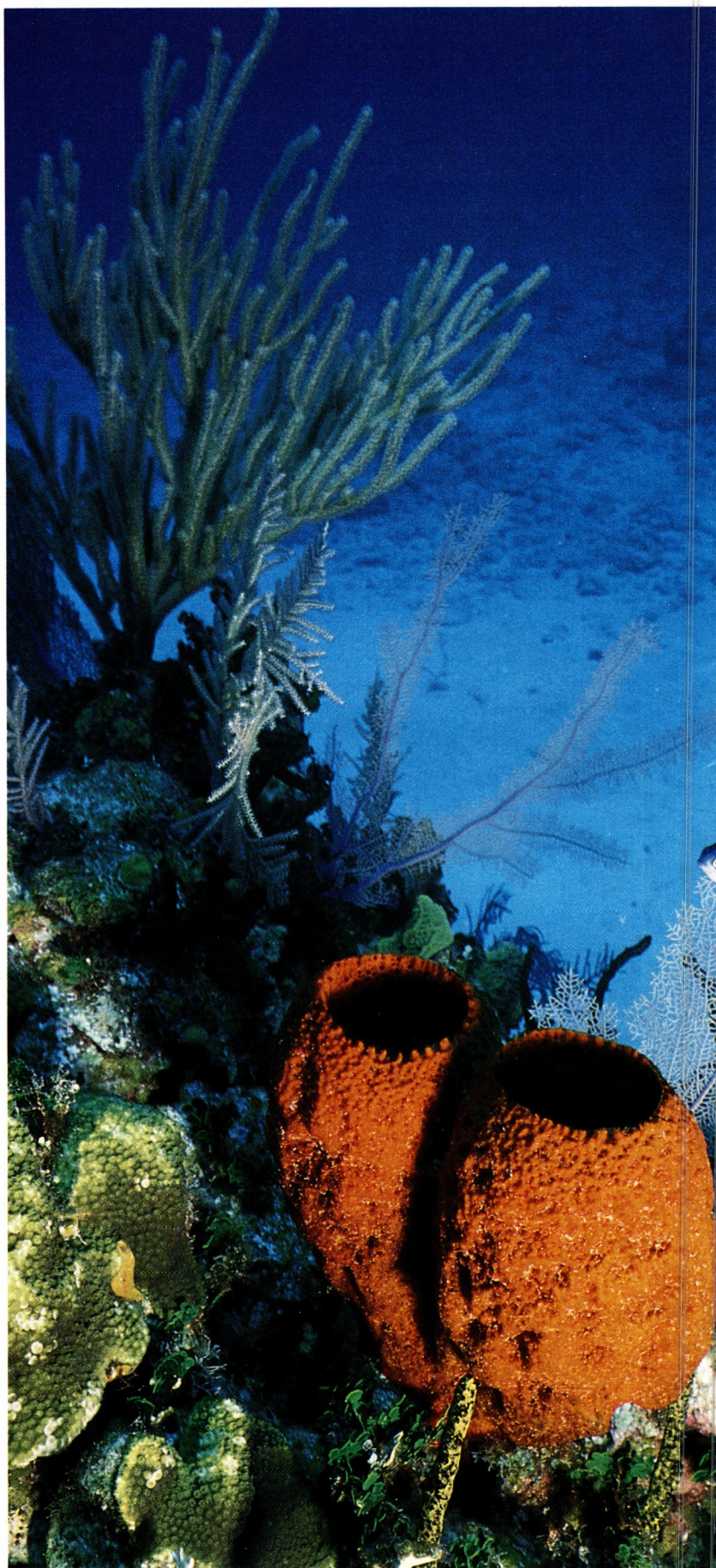
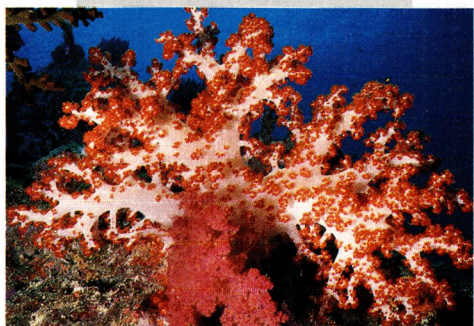
A TAIL OF TWO OCEANS



TEXT AND PHOTOS BY NANCY SEFTON

Right: Sponges are the chief source of bright colors on a typical Caribbean reef. This red vase sponge glows against sapphire-blue water. Below: Broccoli corals come in every hue of the rainbow on Indo-Pacific reefs but aren't found in the Caribbean.

Opposite page: Although both oceans are home to small fish that reside with stinging anemones, the clownfish (left) is found only in the Indo-Pacific. The most commonly seen symbiotic relationship of this kind in the Caribbean involves the diamond blenny (right).





JUST A FEW

years ago, divers with a yen to plunge into warm, clear waters wound up in the Caribbean. It was relatively close and affordable. Even more important, its dive operations were a known factor, the majority being well established, reputed to be both safe and efficient.

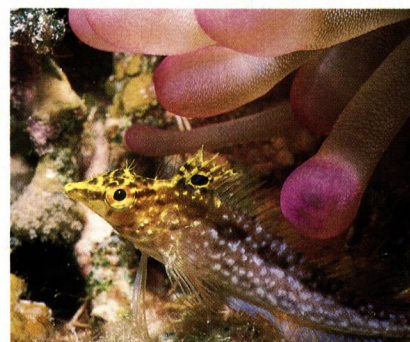
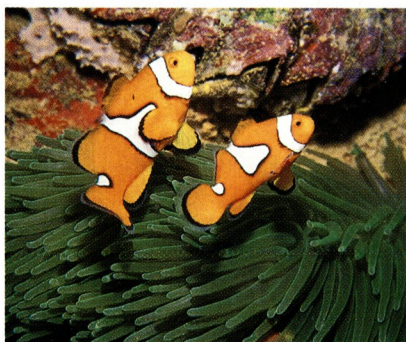
For the average diver, the vast Pacific was a little like the moon—remote, elusive, untamed. The diver who did succumb to the lure of the unknown had to brave serious jet lag, flying perhaps halfway around the planet. Here was a true adventurer, an intrepid bringing along his own tank. With luck, he might locate some rusty compressor, then con a native fisherman out of his dugout, striking out across the waves to isolated coral bommies, unexplored and unnamed.

Things have changed. Indo-Pacific dive facilities, including both land-based resorts and live-aboards, are now a match for the region's superb coral reefs and exciting wrecks. Pick up any dive magazine, and you'll find its destination features to be fairly evenly divided between the Caribbean and the Indo-Pacific.

Thus the traveling diver now has a choice of oceans, but it may be a bit perplexing. Which ocean is best for him?

I'm often asked which region has the better diving. That's like being asked to compare a filet mignon and a hot fudge sundae. They're both fantastic, but quite different (and I wouldn't eliminate either one of them from the menu).

The most obvious difference in the two regions is species diversity. Veterans of Caribbean diving are sometimes astonished when they first open their eyes on a South Pacific reef. Corals have unfamiliar shapes, and their colors can be dazzling. The fish? Up to 10 times as many species are found in the Pacific, compared to the Caribbean.



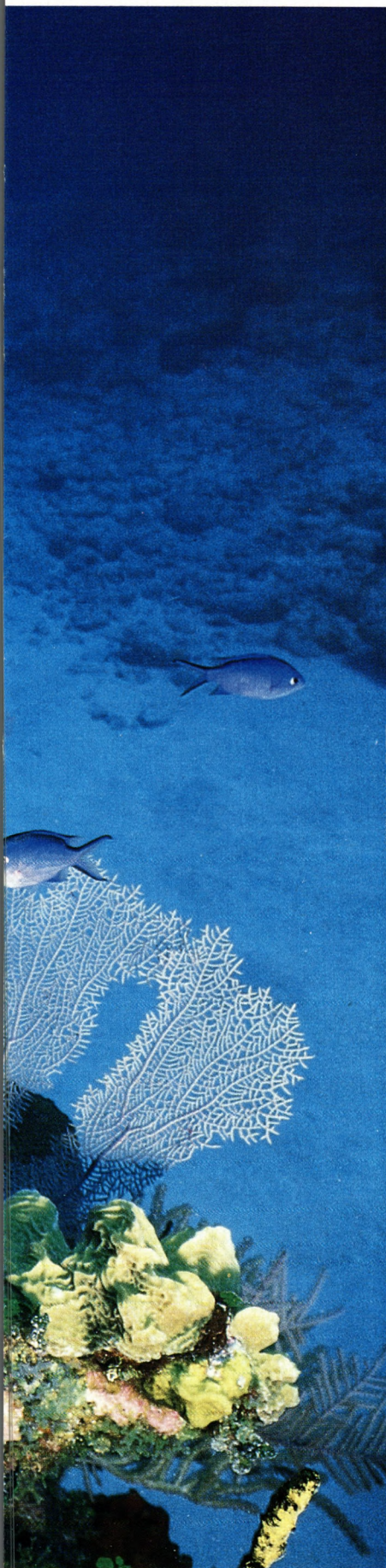
Why these differences? Early in our planet's history, there was only one giant continent called Pangaea, surrounded by a massive ocean that circled most of the globe. The Caribbean, a relatively small body of water, was not created until Pangaea finished breaking up, the pieces gradually drifting apart to form the continents we know today.

© A MATTER OF TIME ©

Thus the Caribbean is quite young in geological terms. Moreover, the Ice Ages, which periodically raised and lowered sea level in this region, destroyed those reefs which had managed to establish themselves. Across the Indo-Pacific, historically free of such interruptions, there has been much more time for marine species to evolve. There's been more space as well; the Indo-Pacific embraces two-thirds of the globe and comprises 66 percent of the earth's total ocean area. From a diver's perspective it extends from the Red Sea and the east coast of Africa to the Galapagos. By comparison, the Caribbean is a millpond.

Thus any animal group, be it worms, mollusks, corals or fish, is represented by more species than in the Caribbean. Stony corals, the reef builders, number about 65 species in the Caribbean, and between 250 and 500 species in the Pacific. A more specific example is the butterflyfish; five or six species are endemic to Caribbean reefs, but open any fish field guide to the Indo-Pacific, and you'll be awed by the sheer numbers and varieties of butterflies portrayed there.

Photographers, often concerned with color, find that although both oceans sparkle with all hues of the rainbow, the brightest colors have different sources. The Caribbean, for example, is home to hundreds of species of sponges, prominent on every reef, showing off their red, pink and yellow tones. On Pacific reefs, sponges



IF YOU WANT THE BEST DIVING IN THE CARIBBEAN



"Wave Dancer"



"Sea Dancer"

...YOU JUST FOUND IT!

Peter Hughes Diving INC. Call **1-800-9-DANCER**

1390 S. Dixie Hwy., Ste. 2213 Coral Gables, FL 33146 1-800-932-6237 or 305-669-9091 Fax (305)-669-9475

WILD DOLPHIN ENCOUNTERS

ADVENTURE VACATIONS IN THE BAHAMAS
ABOARD THE MV DREAM TOO

REASONABLE RATES
SMALL GROUPS
7-DAY ALL INCLUSIVE

DREAM TEAM INC.
P.O. BOX 033271 INDIALANTIC, FL 32903
800-741-5335

Warm Wind

PERFORMANCE ACTIVE WEAR

No more freezing between dives!

Wear our **WARMER** or **WINDBREAKER II** over your **WET** suit.



See our **EXCITING-NEW Dry Suit Liner** - a New Standard in Comfort, Appearance, and Performance!

Warm Wind offers a full line of outerwear for active people who demand quality, performance and style while keeping them **TOASTY WARM & DRY**

Visit your Authorized Scuba Store or call **WARM WIND (800) 288-WARM**

are less in evidence; instead, the dominant source of bright colors are the soft corals, sometimes referred to as broccoli corals, which shine like beacons in shades of hot pink, red, purple and orange. These corals are endemic only to the Indo-Pacific; with a few exceptions, soft corals of the Caribbean tend to have rather muted colors.

☉ TRADE OFFS ☉

Water conditions vary as well, between the two regions. In general the Caribbean boasts slightly better visibility, but there's a trade-off. Increased plankton levels in Indo-Pacific waters, while decreasing clarity, nevertheless foster a greater profusion of marine life.

Except for Cozumel's legendary drift diving, popular Caribbean destinations are relatively current-free. This provides beginning divers with a more relaxed atmosphere in which to improve their skills and to enjoy watching reef creatures.

Most Pacific dive vacations, whether land based or spent on live-aboards, involve some diving in strong currents, at times up to one and a half knots. Only experienced divers capable of handling themselves under such conditions are comfortable with this situation.

There are rewards. Pacific reefs literally come to life when currents are running; broccoli corals expand to feed in all their glory, and predators switch into high gear. Feeding frenzies erupt among fish of all sizes. As one veteran live-aboard captain says, "If you want to witness some real underwater action, don't pass up a current dive!" Regional operators are skilled in making current dives both safe and enjoyable. Divers are often dropped off at a starting point and subsequently picked up downcurrent.

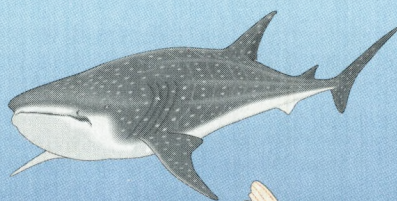
Divers are lured to undersea walls like moths to a flame. Both oceans have their share. The same goes for shore diving. In the right spot, in either the Caribbean or Indo-Pacific, one can don a tank, step into the water and kick a few yards to a spectacular vertical drop-off teeming with life.

Thankfully, water temperatures in all tropical regions have roughly the same range, a comfortable 78°-85°F. But each region has its special seasonal weather patterns that are important to "know before you go." Certain times of the year may bring heavy rains or the risk of running into a cyclone or a hurricane.

☉ GETTING THERE ☉

The choice of one ocean over another may depend on where you live. From North America's west coast, it's almost as far to the Caribbean's Virgin Islands as it is to Fiji in the South Pacific. For most Americans and Canadians, however,

Beautiful Bottom Time



because we're dedicated to diving Curaçao

Lion's Dive Hotel and Marina cares about divers. All 72 of our beautiful rooms are just a snorkel away from Bapor Kibra reef, the wreck of the M/S *Oranje Nassau*, National Underwater Park and C.Quarium. Boat dives, too. Our fast 40 footers are expressly designed for real diving comfort. They can take you to any of Curaçao's more than one hundred dive sites. Or to Klein Curaçao, our second island, where you just might encounter an interesting shark, or two. We've got the largest air station in the Caribbean, *total* PADI training from Underwater Curaçao, a fleet of jeeps especially equipped for diving and a complete retail dive shop.

We're also dedicated to taking the pain out of your surface time. Soak up the sun on our quarter mile beach or beside our swimming pool. Tone up at our fitness center. Dine at any of three oceanview restaurants. Drink at our terrace bar. Windsurf, sail or just lay back in your Lion's Dive room. Like all our rooms it has a seaview, balcony or terrace, color TV, two queen size beds, direct dial phone and includes a hearty diver's breakfast buffet every morning. It's all so good we wonder why divers might even think about anywhere else.

For High Value Dive Packages and Reservations call:

Lions Dive Hotel & Marina

Bapor Kibra, Curaçao, Neth. Antilles

Tel: 01+5999+618100 – Fax: 01+5999+618200

USA – ITR Dive Desk (800) 451-9376

Canada – ITR (800) 468-0023



Lions Dive Hotel
& Marina





Sunrise. Bird calls. Fresh Mayan coffee.
Morning dive.
Lunch. Siesta. Sunning iguanas.
Afternoon dive.
Fish. Coral. Colors and light.
Sunset cocktails.
Dockside moonlight. Jungle sounds.
Ahh.....another day at Bayman Bay.

SWIM, DIVE & FROLIC IN THE SEA STAY FOR 6 NIGHTS - GET THE 7TH FREE!

Valid September 1 - December 12, 1992

*All Cabins 650.⁰⁰ Extra Nights 93.⁰⁰

All packages are 8 days/7 nights and include: transfers to and from the airport, a welcome cocktail, 3 meals per day, weight-tanks-belts, two one-tank boat dives per day, unlimited shore diving, one night dive, hiking, beach picnic, waterfall excursion, and resort taxes.

Let Us Immerse You! **Bayman Bay Club** *Call Today!*
800-524-1823 • 305-370-2120 • FAX: 305-370-2276

(*Rates are per person and exclude holiday weeks.)

the Caribbean remains closer to home, and hence, less expensive to visit.

Perhaps it's because of high standards among established dive facilities and resorts in the Caribbean, that Indo-Pacific operators, competing for the traveling diver's patronage, have followed suit. Most live-aboards and resorts there maintain an equally high standard of cleanliness, meals and general ambience. Nowadays, film processing, camera rentals, photo instruction and scuba resort courses are available in many Pacific destinations, just as they are in the Caribbean.

As a photographer, I've found something special about each ocean that attracts me. For easy, laid-back diving and maximum clarity, (which means elimination of back-scatter) I'm lured to the Caribbean. When I'm looking for hot colors and species diversity, I can't resist the Indo-Pacific.

Whichever ocean you are contemplating, there is a full compliment of resorts and live-aboards to choose from. Be assured that each ocean offers a lifetime's worth of exotic reefs to explore. ■

Nancy Sefton has lived in the Caribbean for the last 21 years and has made extensive trips to all the popular dive destinations throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

"Would I
allow
this person
to teach
my loved
ones
to dive?"

You make thousands of important decisions during your life and choosing a career can be the most difficult decision of all. If you are contemplating a career in the adventurous and rewarding world of diving, the National Association of Underwater Instructors would like to make your decision easier. NAUI has been training the finest underwater educators in the world for nearly thirty years. Demand for NAUI educators is at an all time high.

It's not easy to become a NAUI instructor. The training program is rigorous and difficult, and your water skills are thoroughly tested. Upon completion of your training, our NAUI Instructor Trainers must answer one question, "Would I allow this person to teach my loved ones to dive?" If the answer is yes, you will join an elite group of scuba educators respected around the globe. A career with NAUI is the wisest decision you can make.

Call (800) 553-NAUI

For the NAUI Training Program Nearest You Or Write for More Information,
NAUI Leadership, P.O. Box 14650, Dept. SD, Montclair, CA 91763-1150

SAMPLE ROUND-TRIP FARES AND FLYING TIMES

To Pacific from Los Angeles:

to Fiji \$800-\$1,100	13 hours
to Australia \$1,000-\$1,500	16 hours
to Truk Lagoon \$1,300	10 hours

To Caribbean from Miami:

to Cayman Islands \$200-\$250	1 hour
to Bahamas \$250	1/2 hour
to Belize \$400	2 hours

SEASONS

Caribbean: Winds and seas are calmer April-October. Winter months bring higher winds and cooler water, but, often, better visibility. Rainy season generally occurs in summer and fall. Official hurricane season is June-November.

Indo-Pacific: South Pacific islands can experience cyclones November-April, with December-February generally the wettest. North of the Equator, summers bring wet monsoons to the Indian Ocean. In countries on the equator, weather conditions are highly localized and should be investigated individually before you go.

© DIVE RESORTS RATED ©

(120 pages, In Depth Publishing)

Once you choose an ocean to explore, you need a home base for that upcoming dive trip. One of the best ways to find great resorts is to ask other divers. How about a conference call with 1,000 divers who averaged 3.4 international dive trips each within the past four years? That's about what you get between the covers of *Dive Resorts Rated* published annually by *In Depth*, the consumer newsletter for scuba divers.

Rating forms are mailed to subscribers a couple of times each year for their opinions on the accommodations and diving at resorts they've recently visited. Since the dynamics are constantly changing the rating is an on-going program with the most recent computations published every January.

The book also contains readers comments, some of which are so detailed you feel like you've been there yourself. Approximately 60 destinations and more than 200 resorts/live-aboards are covered. A matrix chart for each destination shows at a glance which resorts have disabled access, shore dives, day care, golf courses and a myriad of other options.

For the 1992 edition, the intrepid *In Depth* travelers rated the following resorts tops for a combination of fine accommodations and great diving.

Caribbean Destination

1. Little Cayman
2. Guanaja
3. Bonaire
4. Cozumel
5. Bonaire
6. Grand Cayman
7. Virgin Gorda, BVI
8. Grand Cayman
9. St. Vincent
10. Dominica

Resort

- Pirate's Point
Bayman Bay Club
Sand Dollar
Galapago Inn
Carib Inn
Tortuga Club
Bitter End
Plantation Village
Young Island
Evergreen Hotel

Non-Caribbean Destination

1. Palua
2. Egypt
3. Maldives
4. Fiji
5. Fiji
6. Fiji
7. Fiji
8. Palau
9. Fiji
10. Egypt

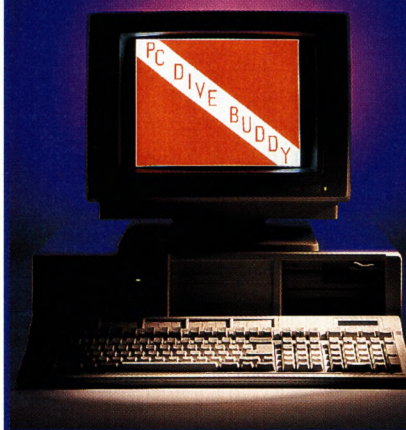
Resort

- Palua Pacific
Fayrouz Hilton
Bathala Tourist Resort
Qamea Beach Club
Dive Taveuni
Ocean Pacific Club
Dive Kadavu/Matana
Palau Mariana
The Regent of Fiji
Ghazala Resort

The only way to obtain a copy of *Dive Resorts Rated* is to subscribe to *In Depth*, P.O. Box 90215, Austin, TX 78709. Eleven issues are \$39 per year, with a copy of *Dive Resorts Rated* given as a premium.

—Reviewed by Gwen Roland

The Ultimate Electronic Dive Log & Trip Journal



With PC DIVE BUDDY, you'll never need a paper log again! Only PC DIVE BUDDY features:

- ✉ Virtually unlimited # of trips, divers and logs;
- ✉ Instant access to any trip, diver or log information;
- ✉ PCDB does ALL the math for you: Bottom times x dive, diver, & trip; SAC Rate; Averages, & More;
- ✉ Trip expense tracker with foreign currency conversion;
- ✉ Business database for reference and/or planning;
- ✉ Diver Biography w/ equipment & training records;
- ✉ Dozens of customized hard copy reports incl. blank templates for "On-the-Road" recording;
- ✉ Intuitive & easy to use with context-sensitive Help;
- ✉ Reservations & Confirmation #'s report & Currency Conversion Charts for trip planning and organization;
- ✉ And Much More!

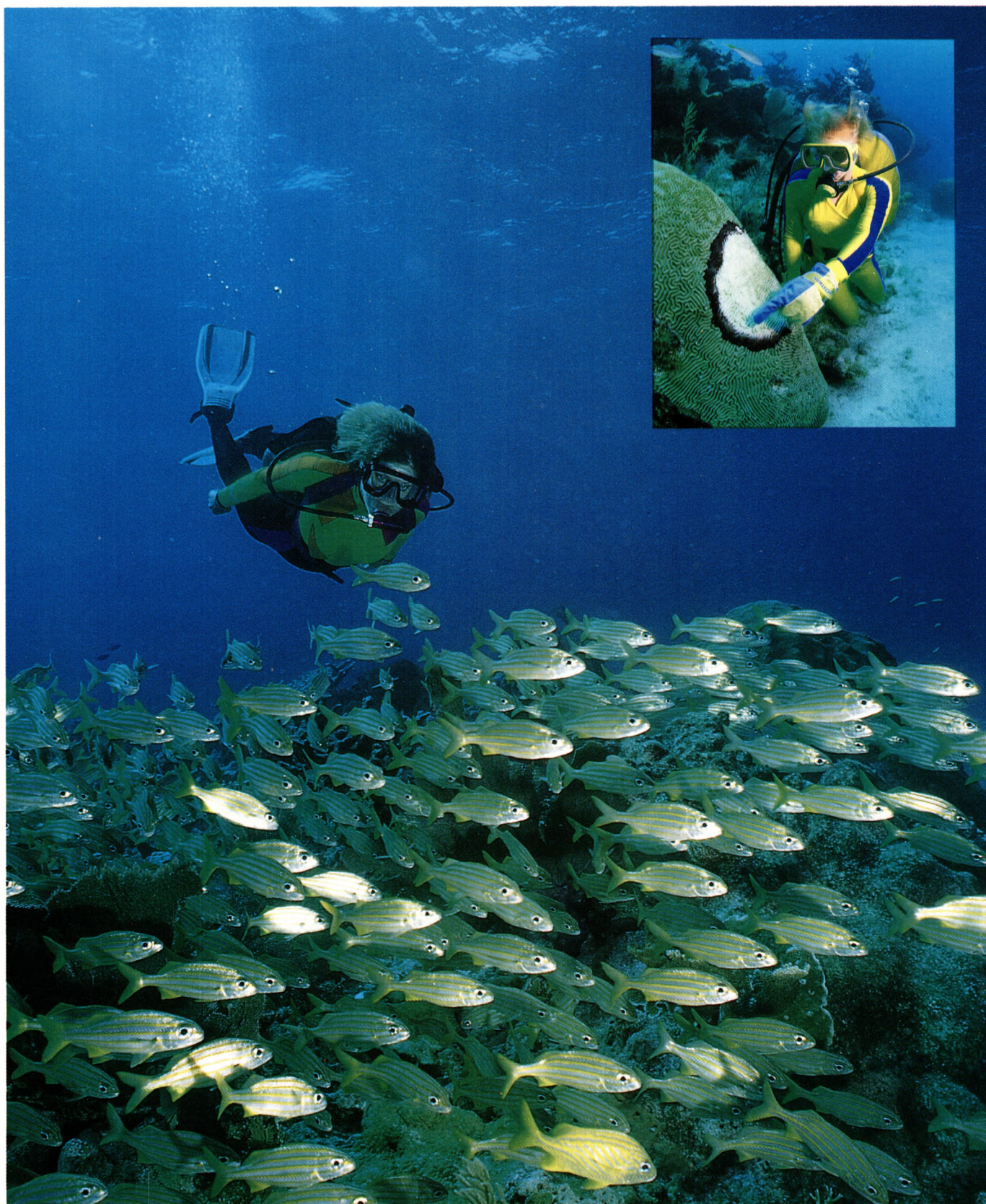
Keep your Diving History safe, secure & handy with PC DIVE BUDDY. only \$39.95

System requirements:
DOS 3.1 or higher
1.5 Meg hard drive space
640 kb RAM

To get your copy of PC DIVE BUDDY, visit your local Dive Shop or call us at:
1-800-892-4268
1-404-641-1157
1-404-641-9594 FAX

Copyright by R & R DataQuest 1992
PO Box 767205
Roswell, GA 30076-7205





Schooling fish are accustomed to sharing their space with divers in the Keys. Lively grunts zip past Suzanne Cummings on a plunge at Pennecamp State Park. Photo by Stuart Cummings

A finger on the problem is usually a step toward a solution, but when it comes to black band disease scientists are as mystified as ever about the origins of this ancient coral killer. Photo by Larry Lipsky.

THE FLORIDA keys

DIVERS GEAR UP FOR BATTLE TO
PROTECT THEIR BELOVED REEF

BY FRED D. GARTH

Key West, 1932. The sea was as smooth as an onion skin as Ernie scrutinized the horizon. A good day for marlin, he thought. Seconds later the zing of the reel rang out. Hours later children of the small fishing town ran to the boat to celebrate the big blue.

That night over several bourbons, Ernie bellowed his success to whomever was in earshot and complained that Key West was getting too crowded.

"Cuba's the place," he said. "So many marlin they jump in the boat. And big? Huge fish. Like you've never seen."

Although it was not so long ago, only 13,000 permanent residents were scattered from Key Largo to Key West, and tourism was as insignificant as the fear of winter.

Connected only by rail from 1912 until the overseas highway was completed in 1938, travel was safari-like, shades of Meryl Streep and Robert Redford in *Out of Africa*. The few visitors who did come only had a couple of hotels from which to choose, and finding a dive shop was like taking a trip into the future.

Eventually, Ernest Hemingway made his trek to Cuba and found the marlin he boasted about. But the charm of Key West brought him back to spout fish stories from his stool in Sloppy Joe's bar until 1939, when the lure of mountains and big game became his passion.

KEY WEST, 1992

Fifty years, 80,000 permanent residents and several million tourists per year later, increased people pressure has put the Keys on alert. Dangling into the sea like a string of piñatas, the Keys are exposed to hazards such as offshore oil drilling, storm water and pesticide runoff, poor sewage treatment and even misguided ships crashing into the fragile coral reefs. Even what seems to be a protection measure, designating the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS), has come under heavy scrutiny. Caught between politics and the threat of pollution, the state of the Florida Keys is one of some conflict.

Unfortunately, divers have gotten a bad rap in recent years. Sport divers have been blamed for kicking the reef to death. While there is some impact, divers have actually been heroes—a driving force to maintain the reefs they love. Divers alerted the public to problems in the first place. They've set up education programs, installed mooring buoys, sunk artificial reefs and explored new offshore reef systems to alleviate pressure on overburdened reefs nearer to shore, which are popular to boat loads of snorkelers.



Above: As if he knows he is protected, a sea turtle cruises among divers at Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary. Photo by Beth Higdon.

Opposite top: Behemoth display of orange elephant ear sponge exemplifies the underwater glamour for which the Keys are famous. Photo by Larry Lipsky.

Below: Multitudes of sea creatures perished in fish traps before the indiscriminate collectors were banned in 1990. Photo by Stephen Frink.



THE REAL POOP

Cartoonist Walt Kelly summed it up prophetically in his Pogo comic strip: "We have met the enemy, and it is us," Pogo announced. In the past, preservation of the Keys has been focused offshore on anchors, snorkelers, divers, oil drilling, etc. However as time goes by, the compass needle increasingly points toward land and "us."

Even when Hemingway was tramping around the islands, wetlands were being converted to "usable" land. Up until the 1960s, plans were underway for filling inlets and bays and other estuaries. Other on-shore activities have also bent the back of the reef.

"Florida is the only state that allows shallow well injection for sewage," said Reef Relief Director DeeVon Quirilo. "And in Monroe County, we have more of these wells than any other county in Florida. With our porous soil, that puts the reefs in danger."

Fortunately much of this has changed in recent years. A virtual moratorium on building has slowed degradation associated with construction work and new

residents. It is this type of attitude and action that is becoming more of a standard in the Keys.

SLICK VICTORY

Along with slowed growth, there are other positive forces at work. One is the ban on oil and gas exploration within the Keys National Marine Sanctuary. With some luck and lobbying, a proposed 10-year ban on activating oil leases just outside the sanctuary is expected to be passed as law. Even harvesting of live rock and coral for aquariums, which in past years removed tons of the reef, is being phased out over a two- to three-year period.

With the exception of those individuals working tirelessly to protect the reefs, probably the Keys' greatest friends are the resilience and replenishment of the ecosystem. As Jacques Cousteau said, "Nature will take care of itself, it's man we have to worry about." Clear, warm Gulf Stream waters still bathe and cleanse the 220-mile archipelago. More than 150 species of tropical fish and over 85 percent of the coral native to the tropical west Atlantic are found in the Keys. This is the world's third largest barrier reef we're talking about, and the sights are still plentiful as well as gorgeous.

BOLDLY GOING WHERE NO MAN...

For divers, the Keys offer a wonderfully unique experience. It's the Caribbean connected by road, accessible by America's first love—our automobiles. The water is clear and warm. The sun is hot, and there are miles and miles of reef to be discovered. English is the primary language (although Spanish helps as you pass through Miami). A dollar is worth a dollar. The low-key (not Looe Key), laid-back attitude that drew Jimmy Buffet and scores of other divers, sailors and sun seekers permeates the soul of the Keys.

Because the near shore reefs are shallow (0-30 feet) as well as dived (and snorkeled) heavily, some operators are exploring new horizons. Besides, many divers are looking for sights deeper than 30 feet. For example, some 8 to 16 miles off Key West, the reef runs from 40 to 130 feet and is crawling with big critters.

"You don't get all of the schools of

"NATURE WILL TAKE CARE OF ITSELF,"

tropical fish like the in-shore reefs," said John Watkins of Viewfinder Dive Center in Key West. "But there's some of the best large marine life you'll find anywhere in the world. We see lots of big rays, some big jewfish and sharks."

The choice of services—dive shops, hotels, restaurants, rental cars and the conveniences Americans love—are as varied as the ocean tide. With so much dive activity, it's easy to find plenty of opposing opinions on what should be done to preserve the Keys for future divers.

For example, the designation of the Keys as a national marine sanctuary, has not exactly been accepted with open arms in Monroe County.

"We originally pushed for the designation in order to keep freighters from grounding on the reef," said Bob Brayman of Hall's Diving Center in Marathon. "We achieved that but later found out we could have gotten what we wanted another way."

The federal regulations that came as part of the National Marine Sanctuary package is more than residents bargained for. Fishermen are concerned for their jobs because taking certain game and market fish has been banned within the sanctuary. Treasure salvors are upset that their hunting is being restricted. And dive operators are looking at bans on spearfishing and lobstering in certain areas, which could impact their cash flow.

TO DIG OR NOT TO DIG

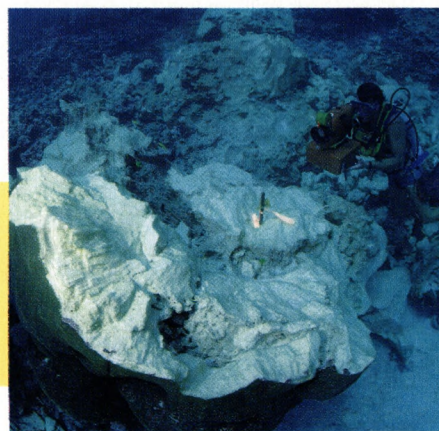
It was just 35 miles off Key West that Mel Fisher, the undisputed world champion of treasure hunting dug into fame and fortune in July of 1985. After 16 years of following a trail like a pack of hounds, Fisher discovered the mother load of \$400 million in gold, silver and rubies.

Today, perhaps the most stirring debate in the Keys concerns the rights of salvors to dig (or blow) their claims. They use contraptions dubbed mailboxes (which look like mammoth upside-down snorkels) to direct a jet-stream of propeller wash at the sandy bottom. Critics claim that the heavy silting from mailboxes clogs and kills coral polyps, as well as destroys valuable sea grass beds. Advocates argue that they have exposed acres of substrate, which now serve as a foundation for new coral growth.



NOAA saw Fisher's latest exploit as "blatant disregard to refrain from damaging sea grass habitat in the Coffin Patch area" and slapped an injunction on his company, Salvors Inc. This caused many to misinterpret NOAA restrictions as a ban on salvaging activities within the boundaries of the FKNMS. However, Ed Lindelof, Branch Chief of the Gulf and Caribbean Region of NOAA's Sanctuaries and Reserves Division stated, "Salvors have always been able to look for treasure as long as their actions do not cause resource damage. In fact, we already have in place a permitting process which will allow recovery of artifacts and have issued one permit."

Below: A NOAA scientist cements damaged coral back in place after the freighter Wellwood ran aground in the Key Largo National Marine Sanctuary. Photo by Robert Holland.



IT'S MAN WE HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT."

JACQUES COUSTEAU

**Spectacular
diving in
America's
premier dive
location...**



**...At the finest
oceanfront
resort in the
Florida
Keys!**

Islamorada, Florida Keys



Cheeca Lodge
(800) 934-8377 (9-DIVERS)

FLORIDA KEYS LIVE-ABOARD

"The Island Sun" 60-foot, 6-passenger luxury live-aboard...

(Call for Info Packet)

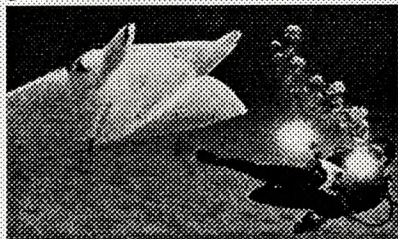
PENNEKAMP PARK

- *Daily trips—dive/snorkel packages
- *Bibb and Duane wreck dives
- *Custom Charters—instruction—sales—rentals

P.O. BOX 1663 • KEY LARGO, FL. 33037



Learn U/W Photography with Jim Church



Nikonos, RS, Housed or Video

Nov 14-21, *Cayman Aggressor*
Jan 23-30, *Belize Aggressor*
May 1-8, *Turks & Caicos Aggr.*
Jun 19-26, *Cayman Aggressor.*
Jul 17-24, *Turks & Caicos Aggr.*
Aug 21-28, *Cayman Aggressor.*
Sep 19-26, *Palau Aggressor.*
Sep 26-Oct 3, *Truk Aggressor.*
Oct 9-16, *Belize Aggressor.*
Nov 14-21 *Okeanos Aggressor.*

1-800-348-2628
1-504-385-2426 In Louisiana

Moore Tours Knows the Cayman Islands Best.

As one of the largest and oldest tour operations on the Islands, Moore Tours answers all your needs for air arrangements, accommodations and diving services...All at the best affordable prices.

- Special monthly dive group departures
- Choose a luxurious beachfront condo
- Stay with dive crowds at comfortable lodges
- Dive from a liveaboard boat



MOORE TOURS

A First Family of Travel Company

11910 Greenville Ave. • Suite 208 • Dallas, TX 75243

Fax (214) 480-8634 • (214) 907-0195

800/527-6366

Salvors are still steaming over the rule, adding that the majority of historical finds have been made by private treasure hunters rather than by government employees.

I'M A-GOIN' FISHIN'... OR AM I?

Another hot controversy at the moment concerns spearfishing and lobstering. A common misconception is that spearfishing ravages the fish population. To the contrary, fishing from a boat, long line fishing, fish traps and netting are each more detrimental than spearfishing.

"Spearfishing is selective fishing," said Tim Taylor of Looker Diving Center in Key West. "Long line fishing and fish traps are far more damaging. They catch indiscriminately—parrotfish, squirrelfish, whatever. And when left unattended, the fish die."

"When you see what you're going to shoot, you can take only what you're going to eat."

Positive action was taken in 1990, when fish traps were banned in the Keys. To date, long line fishing is unrestricted.

"I've also seen lobster traps weighted down with cement blocks banging up the reef, especially when they break loose or drag across the bottom," Taylor said.

Part of a developing comprehensive plan for the Keys calls for core zones in which spearfishing and collecting will be banned. The proof of resurgence can be clearly seen at Looe Key where restrictions on fishing caused a dramatic growth in fish population.

"I've seen a tremendous increase in predators like snapper and grouper since fish traps were outlawed," Taylor said. "It's another positive step for the Keys."

WHAT ABOUT CORAL BLEACHING?

Some problems are not so easily identified. Coral killers such as bleaching and black band disease are as mysterious as they are deadly to the reef. The origin of bleaching, a whitening of live coral that has been observed worldwide, is yet unresolved. However, scientists at the 7th International Coral Reef Symposium, held this year in June on the island of Guam, linked bleaching to nutrient loading, usually associated with land-based runoff and sewage.

As if bleaching isn't enough to worry about, black band disease is also attacking live corals. Not a new enemy of coral, black band scars have been observed on ancient coral heads prompting scientists to believe that it has been around for centuries.

Fortunately bleaching and black band disease affect only a small percentage of an overall healthy reef. Newcomers

simply see miles of vibrant coral filled with colorful tropical fish, while concerned locals keep tabs on these mysterious maladies of the reef.

WHAT'S THE PLAN?

With enough controversies to fill the remainder of the decade, there seems to be agreement on one thing. The Florida Keys need a comprehensive management plan. While the FKNMS designation in 1990 by President Bush established its own management rules, most locals don't believe that bureaucrats in Washington know what's best for offshore Monroe County (Key Largo to Key West). The answer may lie in a home-grown management plan, and currently, the seeds for that are being sown. Due to their collective clout, divers are a powerful force behind the local movement.

Concerned divers have helped to implement educational systems so snorkelers, as well as divers, will be aware of their potential impact. Pre-dive briefings emphasize the need to avoid striking the coral and, in most cases, prohibit gathering shells, coral or other sea life.

"We have over 650 outlets that we hand deliver our reef etiquette materials to," said Reef Relief's Quirilo. "This includes hotels, marinas, dive shops, charter boats and anyone who comes in contact with locals and tourists."

Divers have engineered the installation of more than 300 mooring buoys during the past 10 years, protecting reefs from misplaced anchors. Add to that an aggressive artificial reef program, which has taken pressure off of Mother Nature's natural sons and opened up new opportunities for divers. Organizations such as Reef Relief and Project ReefKeeper have compiled an impressive array of brochures and videos, as well as a five-language booklet that discusses reef etiquette.

"Education is the key," Quirilo said. "It's easy to point the finger at the other guy. But the truth is, all of us contribute to the situation."

Like any ecosystem, the Keys are a delicate balancing act. Even as existing problems are solved, new ones will occur. However as long as the direction is towards protection and not destruction, then divers, the Keys and the rest of the world can look forward to a bright future in Monroe County. ■

For more information contact the Florida Keys and Key West Visitors Bureau at 1-800-FLA-KEYS or 1-305-296-3811. To contact Reef Relief write to Box 430, Key West, FL 33041 or call 1-305-394-3100. To contact Project ReefKeeper write to 16345 W. Dixie Hwy., Suite 1121, Miami, FL 33160.

Fred D. Garth is managing editor/publisher of Scuba Times Magazine.

EXPERIENCE THE ULTIMATE IN FLORIDA KEYS' DIVE EXCITEMENT.



*Come to
Captain Slater's!*

ATLANTIS DIVE CENTER

PADI, NAUI, YMCA & CMAS
INSTRUCTION
DIVE & SNORKEL EXCURSIONS
EQUIPMENT SALES & RENTAL
GLASS BOTTOM BOAT

DIVE KEY LARGO!

1-800-331-DIVE
LOCAL 305-451-3020
51 Garden Cove Drive
Key Largo, Florida 33037

Catch the Bubbles in Paradise

- ARUBA • AKUMAL • AGGRES-
- SOR FLEET • BAY ISLANDS •
- BELIZE • BONAIRE • CAYMAN
- ISLANDS • COSTA RICA
- COZUMEL • CURACAO •
- GALAPAGOS • GUATEMALA
- TEMPTRESS CRUISES •
- WAVE DANCER •

ARCHEOLOGY, REEFS, LAKES,
WRECKS AND WALL DIVING.

EXOTIC ADVENTURE EXPEDITIONS: 8 exciting days along the Pacific coast off Costa Rica, unlimited boat dives to Canos, Batts, China, Bolanos Islands, Canoeing, Kayaking, Horseback riding, hiking, white water rafting, rain & cloud forest national parks, bilingual naturalists, biologists, dive masters & instructors and more.

DON'T MISS THE OPPORTUNITY JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Departures from more than 5 US gateways.

Call 1-800-344-8582

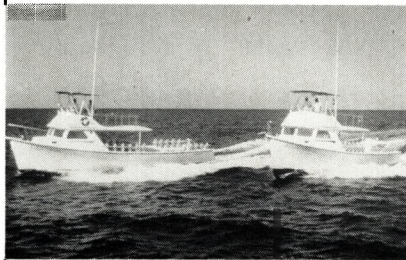
Blue Bonnett Tours

12920 S.W. 122nd Ave. • Miami, FL 33186

CLUB COZUMEL CARIBE

ALL-INCLUSIVE

1-800-327-2254



\$99 / FREE*
7th NITE

SCUBA DIVING VACATION INCLUDES:



- Beachfront Resort
- All you can eat
- All you can drink
- All tips • All taxes
- Scuba diving for certified divers except arrival & departure days
- Sailing • Windsurfing • Kayaks
- Unlimited snorkeling
- Beach parties • Aerobics • Games
- Starlight cruises
- Nightly entertainment • Disco
- Kids' Mini Club
- Purified water throughout



Night diving, deepsea fishing
and horseback riding discounts.

**Rates valid from April 16 to
December 19, 1992**

Single \$109/Triple \$89/Quad \$89/Child
\$50. Per person, per night, Gardenvue
double occupancy. *Holidays excluded.



BARBACHANO
Tours Since 1921

FLORIDA KEYS TRAVEL INFO

GENERAL

Number of islands: Approximately 45 to 50

Population: 80,000

Highest elevation: 12 feet, Islamorada

Located in what body of water? Gulf Of Mexico/Atlantic

Air Service: Miami International—full service, Marathon Key—small planes, Key West—jet service

Cities of departure: All major U.S. cities

Price range of hotel room: \$50—\$300+ per night

Avg. cost of two-tank dive day: \$25—\$45

Avg. round trip flight cost to Key West from:

New York: \$230

Los Angeles: \$310

Florida Keys / Key West Visitors Bureau Ph: 1(800) FLA-KEYS

DIVING

Winter

Summer

Water temperature:

75°F

85°F

Average U/W visibility:

40-50 feet

50-80 feet

(Offshore visibility is generally 100 feet or more).

Air temperature:

75°F

85°F

Best diving months: March-June

Camera Rentals—Still/Video: yes

E-6 Film Processing: yes

Nearest recompression chamber: Hyperbarics Int'l., Key Largo

Wall diving? no

Wreck diving? yes

Night Diving? yes

FLORIDA KEYS MAP

UPPER & MIDDLE KEYS DIVE SITES:

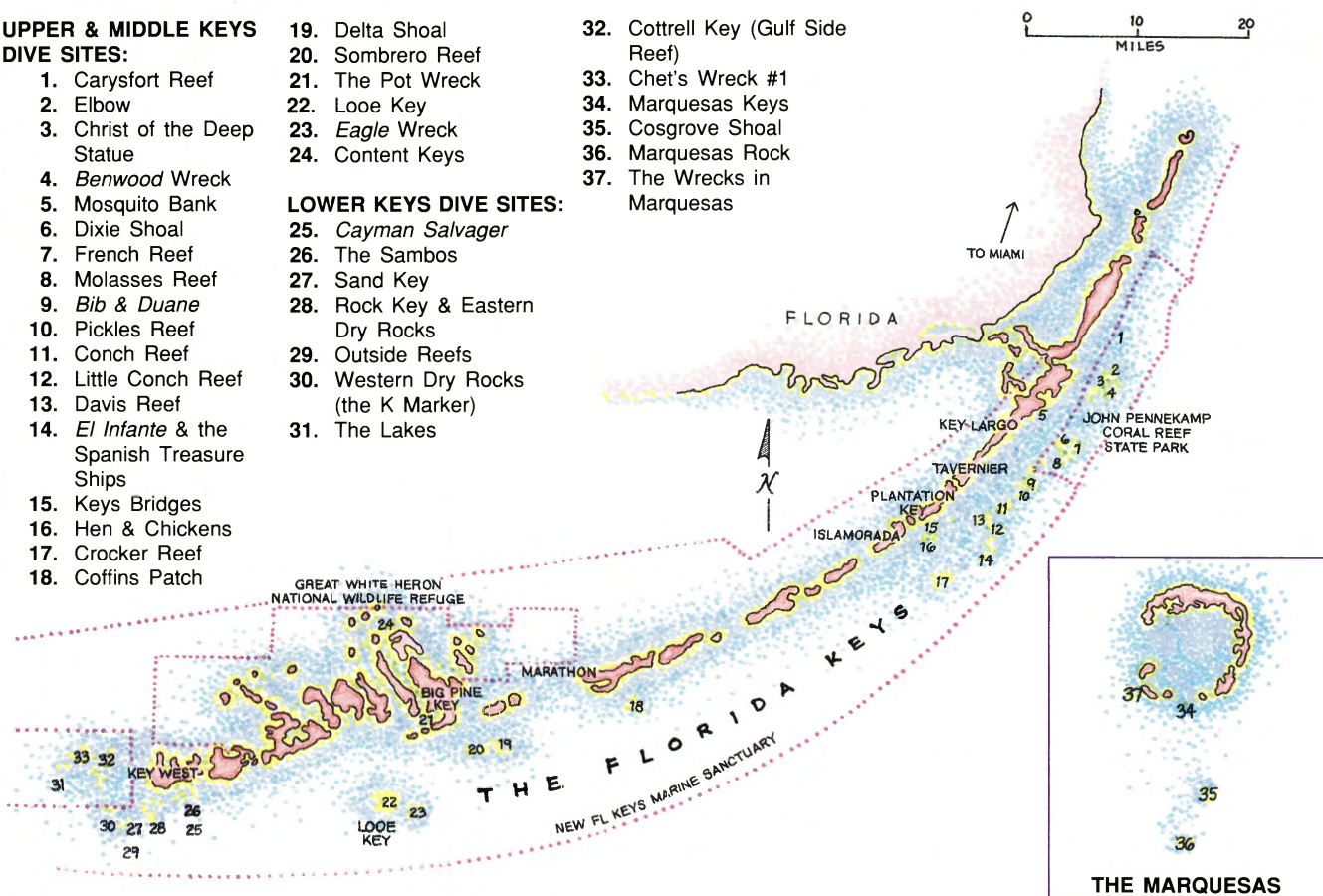
1. Carysfort Reef
2. Elbow
3. Christ of the Deep Statue
4. Benwood Wreck
5. Mosquito Bank
6. Dixie Shoal
7. French Reef
8. Molasses Reef
9. Bib & Duane
10. Pickles Reef
11. Conch Reef
12. Little Conch Reef
13. Davis Reef
14. El Infante & the Spanish Treasure Ships
15. Keys Bridges
16. Hen & Chickens
17. Crocker Reef
18. Coffins Patch

19. Delta Shoal
20. Sombrero Reef
21. The Pot Wreck
22. Looe Key
23. Eagle Wreck
24. Content Keys

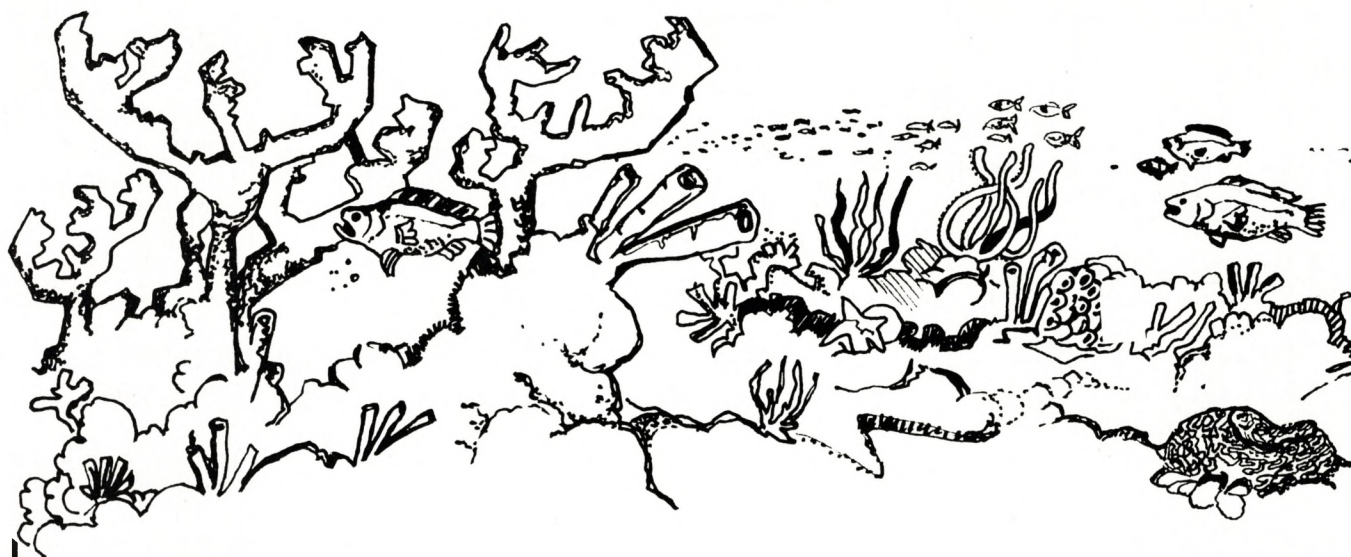
LOWER KEYS DIVE SITES:

25. Cayman Salvager
26. The Sambos
27. Sand Key
28. Rock Key & Eastern Dry Rocks
29. Outside Reefs
30. Western Dry Rocks (the K Marker)
31. The Lakes

32. Cottrell Key (Gulf Side Reef)
33. Chet's Wreck #1
34. Marquesas Keys
35. Cosgrove Shoal
36. Marquesas Rock
37. The Wrecks in Marquesas



(22 miles west of Key West & part of the Key West National Wildlife Refuge)



Hurricane Andrew is gone...

but spectacular diving remains!

The storm hit south Florida hard, and some PADI Dive Operations suffered substantial losses. However, a majority of dive operators in the area are open for business. PADI encourages travelers considering a trip to the area to proceed. The storm's destructive path was actually quite narrow, missing the most popular dive areas in south Florida, the Keys, the Bahamas and the Gulf Coast.

If you don't have a trip scheduled, but want to be involved, you *can* help thousands of residents left homeless by the storm. PADI has established the **PADI Hurricane**

Andrew Relief Fund to assist those displaced by this natural disaster. Cash contributions can be mailed to:

PADI Hurricane Andrew
Relief Fund
1251 East Dyer Road #100
Santa Ana, CA 92705-5605 USA

Contributions will be forwarded to local relief agencies for distribution in the affected area.

This message is provided by PADI and *Scuba Times* on behalf of the diving communities in the areas affected by Hurricane Andrew.

PADI®

SCUBA
TIMES

Charge of the Light Brigade

In the excitement of picking out that first round of underwater photo gear, it's easy to get revved up about cameras and lenses but only invest a minimum amount of thought and money into flash choice. However when it comes time to refit, even the casual photographer has learned to appreciate a dependable flash, perhaps after finding out the hard way that the most advanced photo equipment can't capture a picture in the dark.

Nikon SB 104 Speedlight



The introduction of Nikon's brainy and pricy SB 104 Speedlight in conjunction with the Nikon RS camera has rippled some excitement through the stable world of underwater strobes. One of the most notable innovations is the camera slave feature, which allows you to set up the camera and SB 104 near a shy subject and move away to activate the camera by remote control with an additional flash. Another first is the rear curtain sync which helps create an illusion of movement. In this mode the flash fires just before the shutter closes, photographing a streak of light following the subject.

Along with regular TTL flash, the SB 104 offers two more options. In the normal TTL mode, the camera reads the flash output, determines when enough light has been shed on the frame, then shuts the flash off. In the Matrix Balanced Fill flash mode, it determines the correct exposure for the background ambient light, calculates the correct amount of flash for the foreground and balances the two,

blending the artificial light in the foreground with the natural light in the background. In the third optional mode—Center Weighted TTL—only light for the subject in the center of the frame is considered; the background is ignored.

THE CAMERA DETERMINES WHEN ENOUGH LIGHT HAS BEEN SHED ON THE FRAME, THEN SHUTS THE FLASH OFF.

Mechanical advances include slide bars that use infrared light to activate the interior controls, rather than through-the-housing switches. This eliminates moving parts, o-rings and the possibility of leaks. Signal lights warn of overheating and electrical malfunctions as well as leaks. There's even an emergency flasher in case you surface away from the boat. It will flash every two seconds for four to five hours on a full charge.

Like the matching Nikonos RS camera, the SB 104 is a leap ahead in technology. Yet it lacks a modeling light and covers only 100 degrees. Because the SB 104 is brand new on the market, field tests thus far are limited. However, if it follows the Nikonos tradition of popularity, it will be lighting photos for years to come.

Ikelite Substrobe 150



Ikelite's Substrobe 150 is still a top choice with professionals and amateurs alike. The least expensive of the big three, it offers a modeling light strong enough to double as a dive light in clear water. Another favored feature is the audible chirp (in addition to the standard ready light), which lets you know when it's fired up without taking your eyes off the subject. Anyone who has ever wasted a dive trip because their strobe cord was crimped by the suitcase or simply went on the blink will appreciate user-interchangeable cords. Nikon has this feature on all of their strobes, which will work with any housed SLR equipped with a Nikon mount. The Ikelite strobe will work with Nikon, Sea & Sea and housed SLR cameras. The cord can be removed from

both the camera and the flash for easy replacement at the dive site, if you plan ahead by stowing away an extra cord.

While it lacks the cutting-edge options of the SB 104, the Substrobe 150 has proved dependable under adverse

conditions around the world for thousands of photographers. It requires the longest recycle time of the three. Each photographer's needs determine if six seconds is too long to wait between frames.

Sea & Sea YS-200



A whopping 400 flashes per charge underscores the popularity of the Sea & Sea YS-200. Also, the ready light comes on at 100-percent charge which means you can fire at the first blink. Four arms and other accessories make it one of the most convenient strobes to customize for your system. Like the Ikelite Substrobe 150, the YS-200 has a broad 110-degree beam angle to cover a 15mm lens (94 degrees) with ease. With a diffuser it can handle a 16mm fisheye. It is also the smallest and most compact of the wide-beam strobes, always a plus for gear-laden divers. The 10-hour recharging time takes five times longer than the SB 104 and more than twice the time for the Ikelite, but with 400 flashes at your disposal some divers might not need a charge the entire trip, which means less to pack and less to think about. There are hints that Sea & Sea has a new version in the works.

Whether your priorities are quick recovery between flashes, in-the-field cord changes or mega-flashes per charge there's a dependable strobe to suit your photographic needs. One of the best ways to find out which strobe will make light work of your flash chores is to talk to other photographers and even swap systems with dive buddies until you find the one that works best for you. ■

—Gwen Roland

AN ILLUMINATING LOOK AT THE BIG-GUN STROBES

	FEATURES	NIKON SB 104 SPEEDLIGHT	IKELITE SUBSTROBE 150	SEA & SEA YS-200
POWER	F stop for subject distance of three feet	F16	F11	F11
	Size of beam angle	100 degrees	110 degrees	110 degrees
	Size lens it will cover	Nikonos 15mm	SLR 18mm Nikonos 15mm	Nikonos 15mm
OPERATIONS	Flash slave	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Camera/flash slave	Yes	No	No
	Emergency signal flash	Yes	No	No
	Firing Modes	Fill flash / Matrix balanced Center waited TTL / Manual	TTL Auto / Manual	Manual
	Power Settings	full, 1/4, 1/16	full, 1/2, 1/4	full, 1/2
MISC. FEATURES	Modeling light	No	Yes	No
	Monitor signals	flash ready / moisture alert overheat alert electrical continuity	flash ready (audio/visual)	flash ready
	How are controls operated?	light activated slide bars	switches	switches
	Buoyancy	slightly positive	neutral	slightly negative
	Camera compatibility	All Nikonos housed SLRs	Nikonos housed SLRs Motormarine II	Nikonos, housed SLRs Motormarine II
BATTERY PACK	Number of flashes on full charge	120	150	400
	Recycle time between flashes	3 seconds	6 seconds	5 seconds
	Power source	NiCad	NiCad	NiCad
	Recharging time	2 hours (1 battery) 4 hours (2 batteries)	4 hours	10 hours
	How many will it charge at once?	2	1	1
	Current	110/220	110/220	110/220
	Overcharge protection	Yes	Yes	No
	PRICE*	\$1,532.00	\$659.95	\$775.00

* (excluding battery pack/charger)

Photo by Jerry Schnabel. Model: Susan Lee Swagert

*Diving
in*

Fiji

can be like that

BY GREG BROWN



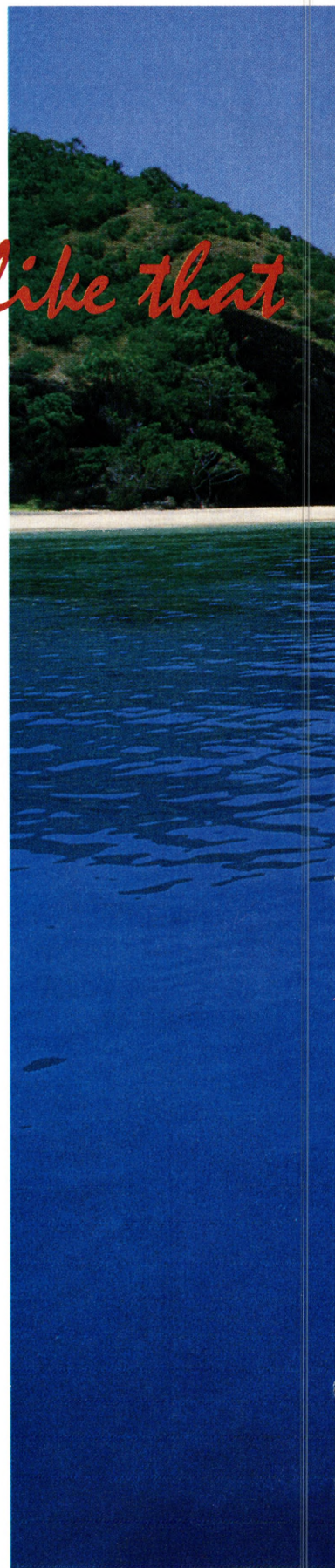
T

wenty-five feet of the blue Pacific Ocean lay above me—and 5,000 feet gaped directly underneath. Thousands of helpless, shimmering two-inch baitfish surrounded me. I was their port in a storm. And as storms go, this one was nothing short of a blue-water hurricane.

The pounding rain came in the form of skipjack tuna, an endless assault of voracious predators hurling themselves among the poor, huddled masses. The fearsome, lethal winds taking the form of sleek, aggressive six- to eight-foot silky sharks. Tuna were flying by in all directions. Occasionally, they wouldn't veer off quick enough. They would graze my shoulders, my sides—hit my fins. But the "rain" didn't bother me; it was those ever-increasing "winds" that became a source of concern. I was using my strobe every few seconds now. Not to light up the melee, but to fend off the sharks. In keeping with the foul weather theme, you could refer to the strobe as my windbreaker. Consider how effective a windbreaker is in a hurricane. I was in trouble.

Who the hell could take pictures in this kind of weather? One large silky, an eight footer, had taken a strong interest in me. Over and over it hit me,

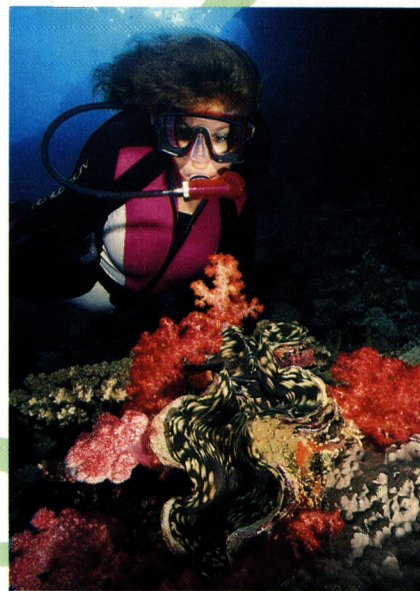
like a prize-fighter going for the kill. First it slammed against my knees, then it grabbed my fins. With each attempted strike, I struck back hard with my strobe. Finally, the hungry silky retreated. I had room to maneuver. I maneuvered quickly out of the water.





Above: A blue ribbon moray bobs his head and grunts at the photographer as a defense tactic in Bengga Lagoon. Photo by Stuart Cummings.

Left: There's still plenty of room to lose yourself in the depths of beauty around Fiji. Photo by Greg Brown.



Above: Susanne Cummings inspects a tridacna clam on a coral buttress of the Great Wall of Gau, which starts at a depth of four feet and plunges to 3,000 feet. Photo by Stuart Cummings.

Far Left: The Cultural Gardens in Pacific Harbor represent the Fijian reverence for nature and antiquity. Photo by Greg Brown.

FiJI

1,000 DIVERS CAN'T BE WRONG

If you rely on fellow divers' advice, then Fiji should be your next destination. In the book, *Dive Resorts Rated, By In Depth Publishing*, five of the top ten dive resorts in the Pacific were located in Fiji. Over 1,000 divers ranked the resorts on accommodations and diving—and picked Fiji 50% of the time. With 322 islands, accommodations ranging from luxury to bungalow, world-class live-aboard dive boats and enough diving to fill 1,000 lifetimes, Fiji is for you. Don't take a chance. Take a trip—to Fiji!

TO VISIT OUR
ISLANDS, CALL

1-800-YEA-FiJI

Say "Bula" (it means Hello) and ask for a free brochure, or write to us,

fiji

ISLANDS
FIJI VISITORS BUREAU

The Fiji Islands Visitors Bureau
5777 West Century Blvd., Suite 220
Los Angeles, CA 90045

BEQA DIVERS Know Beqa Best!



Fiji's Beqa Lagoon is recognized as some of the greatest diving available. Beqa Divers' 25 years of experience means we know the pick of the dive spots. Our base at Pacific Harbour Hotel is the closest to this top diving. Our fast boats get you there quickly!

BEQA DIVERS FIJI

Fax: 011-679-361-047
Ph: 011-679-361-088
P.O. Box 777 • Suva, Fiji.

FIJI'S BEST DIVING We Know the Experience You're Looking for

- PRISTINE WALLS
- SOFT & HARD CORAL GARDENS
- TROPICAL FISH & PELAGICS
- WHITE SAND BEACHES
- NATIVE ISLAND VISITS
- UNLIMITED PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

PACIFIC NOMAD

115' LIVE-ABOARD • 9 DBL. A/C CABINS
4, 7 & 10 DAY TRIPS

1-800-DIV-XPRT



50 Francisco St., Ste. 205
San Francisco, CA 94133
Tel: 1-800-DIV-XPRT
Fax: 415-434-3409

PACIFIC NOMAD CRUISES

P.O. Box 146
Pacific Harbour, Fiji Is.
Tel: 011 (679) 450-370
Fax: 011 (679) 450-480

Back on the boat as I described the dive, some of my shipmates laughed, others just shook their head. I was laughing by the time I put my camera in the rinse bucket, but when I looked down, my hands were shaking. The experience was both exhilarating and unnerving. The adrenaline was pumping full force from a dive that lasted only two minutes and twenty-one seconds. Diving in the Fiji Islands can be like that.

Prior to the next dive, first mate Sam Henning, my longtime Fijian friend, fired up the Zodiac. We headed for the only village on the island, perhaps the only village within a 50-mile radius. Upon our arrival, Sam greeted the island chief. They exchanged gifts and drank a few bowls of the ceremonial Fijian beverage called kava, while making some small talk and singing a few songs. Afterward, the chief gave us his blessings for safe diving upon "his" pristine reefs. Here was a place of dreams—an untouched coral wonderland—nature's most breathtaking realm.

The Fijian people residing on the island had absolutely no luxuries, and yet they had everything. They were sole owners of the reefs surrounding their home. They knew how to coexist within this fragile, complex ecosystem—never trying to dominate their environment, but instead attempting only to be a part of it.

There was harmony here, perhaps some island magic. You could feel it. As we cruised toward our dive site, a pod of dolphins joined us for the journey. The sea was like glass. A blue sky held a warm, tropical sun that sent streaming shafts of light onto the luxuriant, living, limestone carpet below. Finning down to the reef, I was greeted by several ornately designed schooling bannerfish. They posed for the camera in synchronized swimming fashion. Hundreds of orange lyretail basslets fluttered in the shallows, the sunlight making them glow against a cerulean backdrop. Table coral was the size of dinner tables. Fire engine red coral trout (grouper) with blue spots and emperor angelfish hovered beneath the giant coral formations while being cleaned by the omnipresent cleaner wrasses. Where hard corals would allow it, fields of soft corals covered the substrate in a riotous display of colors. On the deeper reef slope, gorgonian fans of golden yellow and scarlet red waved gloriously in the slight current. Tiny nudibranchs and exotic inch long gobies moved secretly among the living tapestry.

Out of film, out of precious bottom time and low on air, I began my ascent. It was a perfect day in a perfect world. No worries, mate. As I put my camera in the rinse bucket, I felt exhilarated, completely relaxed and possessed of an extraordinary inner peace. Diving in the Fiji Islands can be like that.

I have made 10 trips to the Fiji Islands during the past several years. Why Fiji again and again? There are so many other exotic destinations, why Fiji? In fact, I have visited many other destinations throughout the tropical Indo-Pacific, some on more than one occasion. Each destination certainly has its merits. But when I total the pluses, there always seems to be more of them in the Fiji column. Allow me to elaborate.

Easy Access

Fiji is a 12-hour flight from the West Coast. Flights are direct with a one-hour fuel stop in Hawaii. The west coast points of departure are Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Vancouver. The choice of airlines includes Qantas, Air New Zealand or Canadian Air. There are no transfers, no small, third-world airlines. It's simply a matter of boarding a major airline in the U.S. or Canada, and half a day later you're in Fiji . . . so is your luggage.

Hospitality

Fiji is one of the few exotic locations where you can find amenities such as reliable phone/fax service, drinkable water and rental cars. You can even be pampered in Fiji at some of the five-star hotels located on the main island of Viti Levu. While the luxury hotels offer diving, the surrounding reefs are impacted by fresh water run-off and over fishing. If you truly want to see the best that Fiji has to offer, travel to one of the remote offshore island groups for a stay at one of the private resorts or charter one of the live-aboards plying Fijian waters.

The people of Fiji are as wonderful as the diving. They go out of their way to make you feel at home. I sincerely believe that they enjoy the company of Americans. How many countries can you honestly say that about? Aside from the diving, it is this Fijian warmth and hospitality that keeps me coming back.

Law and Order

Last year one of my diving companions accidentally left his Aquatica Housing along with a Nikon F3 at the International Airport in Nadi, Fiji. He left it uncovered on the sidewalk near the taxi stand. We then drove to Suva (Fiji's capital) to board our dive vessel. When we arrived, my partner realized his worst nightmare had come true. His \$4,000 camera system was just sitting there on a sidewalk at an international airport.

At this juncture, it had been sitting there for close to four hours. We called a rental car service at the airport and asked them to go outside to look for the camera system. Unbelievably, both housing and camera were on the sidewalk exactly where he had left them! The moral of the story: Crime is one less thing you have to worry about in the Fiji Islands. Oh, by the way, a taxi driver delivered the camera

(Continued on page 61)



TROPICAL ADVENTURES

TRAVEL

THE FIJI ISLAND EXPERTS SINCE 1979
"One Call Does It All"

**Complete
AIR/LAND
Packages**

**LAND-BASED
or
LIVE-ABOARDS**

**13 Years
FIJI
Experience**

Request our detailed Fiji Islands Diving Brochure

(WA) (206) 441-3483
Fax (206) 441-5431

TOLL FREE 800-247-3483

Coming Next Issue . . .

D I V E S U I T S I N T H E A B C s
H A W A I I • T A H I T I
A D V A N C E D D I V I N G D E F I N E D



DIVE KADAVU MATANA RESORT FIJI ISLANDS

**Never before has a dedicated South Pacific
diving destination been so affordable.**

- ➔ Virgin reefs
- ➔ Only 15 minutes to more than 30 dive sites
- ➔ Calm waters ➔ Fantastic viz
- ➔ Modern ammenities ➔ Traditional environment
- ➔ E6 photo lab ➔ Max. 16 divers

For a Fiji diving holiday you can afford.

Book now through



AQUA TREK
1-800-541-4334
ph. (415) 398-8990
fax (415) 398-0479



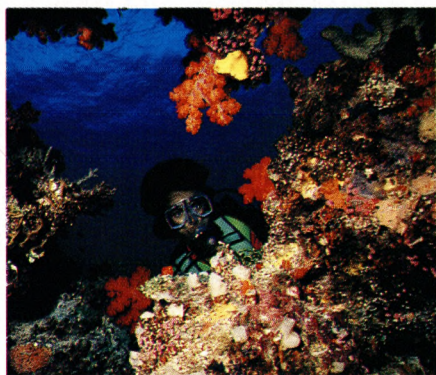
MATANA RESORT
PH: 011 617 449 1915
FAX: 011 617 449 1190



IF YOU CAN'T RELAX HERE, YOU CAN'T RELAX

Vacation in your own private paradise. As tropical, as quaint, as secluded as any undiscovered island. Laucala, a Forbes Magazine South Pacific Property – the perfect island resort.

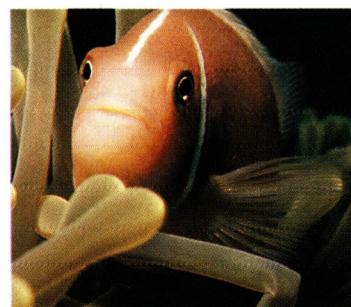
Enjoy our spectacular sun-drenched beaches in all their secluded beauty. This pristine paradise offers the world's finest scuba diving and snorkeling. Fish. Windsurf. Sail. Play tennis. Water-ski. Relax by the pool. Do it all. Or do nothing at all. There are no schedules, none of life's pressures.



Laucala is for people who want the ultimate vacation experience – the finest amenities without the formalities. Go deep sea fishing on board the island's private fishing boat. If you wish, our master chef will prepare your catch for your dining pleasure. Dive in azure waters, world renowned for the beauty and abundance of their tropical fish and the marvel of their coral reefs.



All this for just \$2,100 pp for 8 days and 7 nights (plus Fiji tax). And that includes everything. ALL meals, ALL drinks, UNLIMITED use of ALL recreational facilities, whenever and as often as you wish at NO EXTRA COST.



Though it's far from the stresses of everyday life, Laucala is easily accessible. Our island has its own private runway and daily scheduled commercial flight.



Find out more about this paradise in the Fijis and our Special Island Exclusive. Laucala, owned and operated by Forbes Magazine. **For more information write to: Errol Ryland, Manager, Box 149, Fort Garland, CO 81133, or call 1-800-FORBES-5.**



FORBES
MAGAZINE'S
FIJI ISLAND

DIVE TRAVEL INFO

FIJI

Number of islands: Approximately 320

Size: 7,055 square miles

Population: 750,000

Languages: English, Fijian, Hindustani

Political affiliation: Republic (self-governed)

Entry doc. required for US citizens: Passport

Electrical current: 240 volts, 50 cycles (need transformer)

Highest elevation: 4,200 feet—Viti Levu

Located in what body of water? South Pacific (Koro Sea)

Nearest major landmass/distance: 1800 miles east of Australia

Airlines servicing destination: Qantas, Air New Zealand, Canadian Air

Cities of departure: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Vancouver, B.C.

COSTS

Price range of hotel room: \$60—\$350 per night

Avg. cost of two-tank dive day: \$60-\$80

Currency and exchange rate: 1.45 Fijian = \$1.00 U.S.

Departure tax: \$10

Avg. round trip flight cost from: *

Miami: \$1300

New York: \$1300

Los Angeles: \$1100

*(Tour operators have better package deals)

DIVING

	Winter (April-Sept.)	Summer (Dec.-March)
Water temperature:	76-78°F	80-82°F
Average U/W visibility:	100 feet	80 feet
Air temperature:	78-80°F	82-85°F

Best diving months: April, May, November (Dec.-March is rainy/hurricane season)

Camera Rentals—Still/Video: limited

E-6 Film Processing: yes—check each resort in advance

Nearest recompression chamber: New Zealand

Wall diving? yes

Wreck diving? no

Night Diving? yes

Top 3 dive sites:

1. Great White Wall
2. Soft Coral Grotto
3. Wakaya Passage

Matagi Island Resort

1-800-3-MATAGI



Matagi Island - private, luxury island resort (max. 24 guests).

Aqua sports - scuba, snorkeling, windsurfing, Hobie cat, paddle boards & water skiing.

Gourmet food and excellent wine.

Introducing the "Matagi Princess II" - 80 ft., max 10 divers, 5 state-rooms, dynamite diving

Comfort and hospitality as found only in the South Pacific

P.O. Box 83, Waiyevo, Taveuni, Fiji
(679) 880260 • fax (679) 880274

MOODY'S NAMENALALA
your own
Private Dive Resort
on Namena Island
10 guest maximum

Dive Fiji's Best!
Adventure Express
800-443-0799
415 442-0799 FAX 415 442-0289

Private Mailbag, Savu Savu, Fiji Islands
Phone: 011-679-813-764

DIVING PLUS

Copán Belize
Baboon Sanctuary Livingston
Mountain Pine Ridge Tikal
Bay Islands Jaguar Preserve

GREAT TRIPS
1616 W. 139th St.
Burnsville, MN 55337, U.S.A.
(800) 552-3419 (218) 847-4441

GREAT DIVES



TEL (809) 949-7577

FAX (809) 949-7050

AMBASSADORS INN

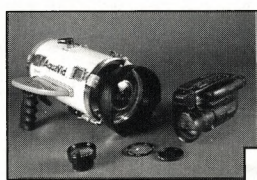
TOLL FREE

1-800-648-7748

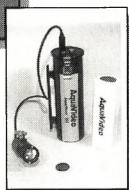
Underwater Video?

AquaVideo™

Celebrating "A Decade of Innovation"



Housing for Sony TR4/5/7 - \$799; for TR81 Hi8 - \$849; for TR101 - \$899. Includes wide lens, dome port, and color corr. filter.



SuperNova™ Lights

For 10 years AquaVideo™ has set the standards in U/W video housings and lights. Feedback from thousands of users resulted in a housing system that is easy to set up and use, extremely reliable, and unsurpassed in image quality. Available from stock for most popular camcorders. Custom housings for any camcorder in two to ten days.

AquaVideo U/W Systems, Inc.

450 SW 130th Ave. Suite A • Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33325
(305) 424-2052 • [FAX 305 473-6935]

NEW WAVES

Tube Top

Buoyancy control tubes are the latest endeavor to banish the weight belt forever. The new Attitude Adjuster consists of compact tubes aligned on either side of the air tank. Lead balls inside the tubes move freely for automatic repositioning and rapid weight adjustment. A quick-release mechanism provides emergency escape. Think Tank Products, Inc., will release the product in early 1993 through dive shops in Florida and Texas with a broader distribution to follow. For more information call (713) 933-9875.

Circle A on the Reader Service Card



Photo Finish

Pictures tell the story on the new Computek II computer, which uses color-coded pictographic technology to give instant "snapshots" of vital data. Nitrogen level, remaining air, battery life and a safe-to-fly designation are all displayed in colorful graphic forms. Easy-to-read numeric displays keep you updated on depth, deco status, bottom time, temperature, tank pressure and other important figures. For more information call Ocean Edge at (619) 695-9130.

Circle D on the Reader Service Card

Mini Skin

This sleek, black, newest member of the Tank Skin family by Scuda is a universal holster for all brands of alternate air cylinders. Slip it over the tank and then mount on a BC chest or tank strap. A pair of snaphooks also lets you attach it to your BC or Tank Skin D-rings. For more information call (800) 447-2832.

Circle E on the Reader Service Card

Correct Change

TUSA has introduced two new lenses for divers who wear glasses or contacts. The Liberator Plus has all the functions of the popular Liberator and also allows for the easy installation of corrective lenses. It features quickly adjustable springless strap buckle, low volume for snug fit and double feather-edged crystal silicone skirt.

The Imprex Hyperform mask also incorporates the features of the Liberator with some improvements such as a bi-symmetric lens design that allows for interchangeable right and left lens installation. Its low volume offers increased peripheral vision. For more information call (213) 498-3708.

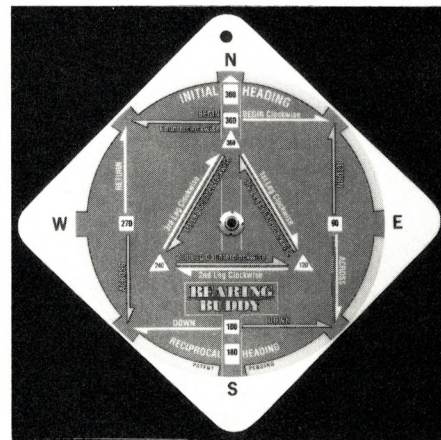
Circle B on the Reader Service Card

Inching Along

Lighting just got easier with the introduction of the new Caterpillar flex arm to the Marine Camera Distributors strobe system. Just like its namesake, the Caterpillar is made of segmented joints that flex in all directions for easy positioning of either strobe or video lights. A special friction clutch for the lamp head attachment simplifies head rotation. An accessory "Y" attachment provides the mounting of two lights on one arm. For more information call (619) 481-0604.

Circle C on the Reader Service Card

Less Math, More Fun



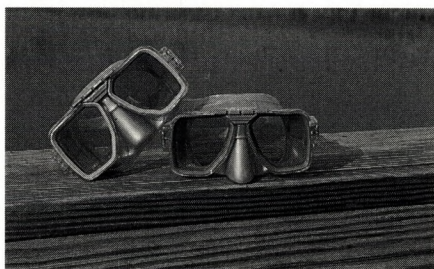
Simply dial it and run it! Instructors, students and navigational enthusiasts are enjoying less math and having more fun with the new Bearing Buddy. This user-friendly navigational aid and slate is designed to simplify calculations for underwater navigational patterns. It gives instantaneous headings for reciprocals, squares, triangles, U-patterns or established patterns of either clockwise or counterclockwise directions.

The plastic disk mounted on a six-inch

slate shows directional headings through its windows. You can draw patterns and write down the headings on the water-proof slate. To use, set your initial heading and follow either the clockwise arrows for right turns or the counterclockwise arrows for left turns. Your next headings will show up, in order, through the clear windows. For more information call the diver who invented it: Eric Richardson, (501) 862-0021.

Circle F on the Reader Service Card

In Living Color



A new mask by SeaVision promises to put the punch back into underwater sightseeing. The lens are made of a color-correcting material that intensifies the colors of the spectrum that are lost by the light-absorption properties of water. The lens are also supposed to increase clarity and depth perception.

SeaVision comes in a variety of rim colors and offers a low-volume, split-lens design with a gray silicone skirt that keeps your eyes focused on the subject. The lens are treated for scratch and fog resistance. Easy-to-install custom-prescription lenses are also available. Request the SeaVision video at your dive store or call (813) 866-0037 for more information.

Circle G on the Reader Service Card

Slated for Action

Have you ever gone down with a hastily scribbled drawing of a wreck that made perfect sense while you were looking at a dive guide up on deck but turned into hieroglyphics under water? For travelers to Truk Lagoon, that doesn't have to be a problem anymore. K & S Enterprises has released a set of five Truk Lagoon Dive Guide Slates representing nine of Truk's most famous wrecks as well as a map of the entire lagoon. The heavy-duty slates measure seven by nine inches and contain wreck depths, lengths, points of interest, photographic highlights and relative positions to the ocean floor. For more information call (305) 441-9246.

Circle H on the Reader Service Card



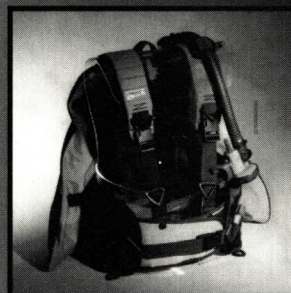
Don't get lost at sea; be found with Dive-Alert, the surface signaling device that emits a loud blast heard up to a mile away. Quick disconnect fittings allow easy integration with most power inflators and low pressure hoses. Models now available for SeaQuest® AirSource and Scubapro® A.I.R. 2.

Ideations • 800 275 4332
206 281 0067 • FAX 206 285 6897

U.S. Patent No. 4950107
and foreign patents

Dive-Alert™

DIVE WITHOUT A WEIGHTBELT.



zeagle
SYSTEMS, INC.

Phone (813) 782-5568



Oops...

In the September/October issue, *Gulf Stream Eagle* was omitted from the listing of live-aboard operators in the Bahamas. For more information call (800) 488-3483. *Bottom Time Adventures'* West Coast phone number was listed incorrectly. The correct number is (800) 727-2822. Also the *Gulf Stream Princess* is now the *Palm Princess*.

In the Belize Dive Travel Information Chart on page 39, the winter temperature for Belize was incorrectly reported as 60°F. It should have read 75-80°F with lows rarely dipping below 60°F.



DIVE EXOTIC THAILAND!

with . . .
**SIAM DIVING
CENTER**
and the . . .
SAI MAI
live-aboard



- Phuket's only American-owned 5-star facility
- Certification and land-based diving
- 2 live-aboards with one to 10 night itineraries to Racha, Phi Phi, Similans, Surins, Ko Bon and the Burma Banks
- Best live-aboard diving and food in Thailand!
- No crowds, only 8 divers max!

For more information,
contact your
Thailand experts at:



800/821-6670

(U.S. & Canada)

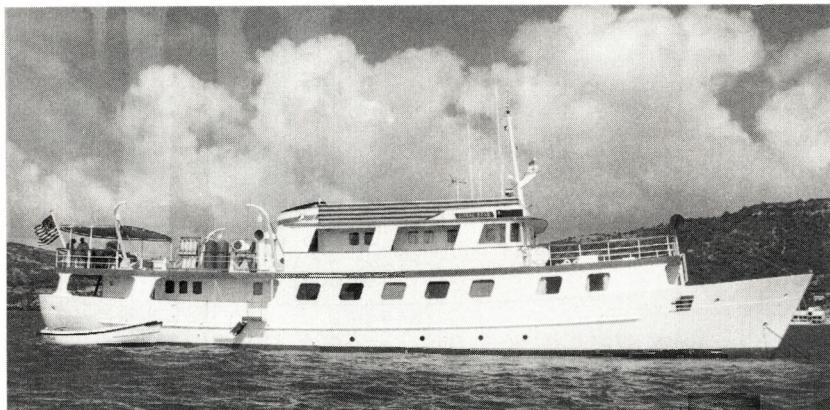
800/262-6670

(CA only)

Fax: 310/545-1672

LIVE-ABOARD UPDATE

Remote Possibilities



New boats on the horizon! That means more opportunities for divers to explore remote sites that were inaccessible not so long ago. It's also further proof that the live-aboard industry is a burgeoning success in the dive world. The Aggressor Fleet continues to multiply. The newest addition will be the *Palau Aggressor* scheduled to make its first cruise on January 24. The vessel will operate year round offering seven nights and five-and-a-half days of diving. For more information about any Aggressor boat call (800) 348-2628.

Speaking of firsts, See & Sea announces a new live-aboard in Borneo. Carl Roessler will escort the inaugural cruise March 2-12 on the 120-foot refitted coastal freighter that will accommodate 18 passengers. The name *Borneo Explorer* has been tentatively approved by the Malaysian government. The first cruises (March to October) will go beyond Sipadan to dive on a series of reefs north and south of Layang Layang. The marine life is so abundant, a recent expedition encountered more than 500 hammerheads at a single dive site. From November to February the vessel will operate on the eastern side of Borneo.

After the warm-water incursion of the El Nino weather pattern, observers report massive numbers of hammerheads, white tips and other pelagics thronging the waters around Cocos Island. Divers who have frequented Cocos for five years say this year's shark schools are the largest they have ever seen there. To take advantage of the sightings, See & Sea has arranged a Christmas big-animal spectacular December 17-27 and a New Year's spectacular December 30-January 9

aboard the *Undersea Hunter*.

The 120-foot *Falie* is host vessel for the 17th Annual See & Sea Great White Shark Expedition scheduled for February 1-12. The *Falie*'s three full-size shark cages have large viewing ports for filming these awesome predators. Some groups have been visited by as many as seven 15-footers at once, and every group has seen plenty enough to call it the thrill of a lifetime, according to Carl Roessler.

On its April 15-25 cruise in Vanuatu, the 130-foot *Coriolis* will make a special stop at Pentecost Island for passengers to watch or photograph the famed Land Divers there. A dozen or more men leap head first from tall towers. As they plummet toward the ground, their only hope of survival is that vines tied around their ankles will stop them before they crash to earth. These daring performers calculate their fall so precisely that their hair actually brushes the ground. Pentecost Island will be just one of the stops in the 700-mile itinerary of Vanuatu's spectacular diving. For information about any of the See & Sea trips call (800) DIV-XPRT.

What better way to develop a positive perspective on the new year than by diving with hundreds of humpbacks and listening to their eerie songs. For 1993 the *Coral Star* has expanded its annual whale watching trips on the Silverbank, south of the Turks and Caicos. The first expedition will take off January 23, and they will conclude with the last trip taking off March 20. Guests on the 1992 trips reported hundreds of the 60-foot creatures in sight from dawn to dark. It is estimated as many as 3,500 of the 50-ton whales congregate on the Silverbank each year during calving season. For more information call (800) 433-7262. ■

(Continued from page 55)

and housing to our dive boat. For the three-hour delivery he charged my friend only \$30. Amazing, isn't it?

Resorts/Live-aboards

Fiji has become quite popular with American divers in the past several years. With numerous private island resorts only a 10-minute boat ride from world-class diving, it's easy to see why. There are also a couple of excellent live-aboards available to take divers to the more remote areas of Fiji such as Astrolabe Reef, the Lomativiti Island Group or the Lau Island Group. Detailed information is available through numerous U.S. dive tour operators or the Fiji Visitors Bureau in Los Angeles (213-417-2234).

The Diving

There are more than 300 islands in the Fiji archipelago. Those islands are scattered across 7,055 square miles of the blue South Pacific. There are thousands of miles of coral reefs. Many of these reefs have yet to be explored. It is diving on a colossal scale. What you can see under water in these islands will glow in your memory for a lifetime.

In one 14-day trip, I observed humpback whales, pilot whales, bottle-nosed dolphins, a whale shark, hammerheads, grey reef sharks, silver-tip whaler sharks, eagle rays, manta rays, hawksbill turtles, schools of mahi mahi and yellowfin tuna. That's right, one 14-day trip, not to mention the incredibly colorful reefs and exotic reef fishes!

Among Fiji's many attributes is its claim as the Soft Coral Capital of the World. If you get an opportunity to dive sites like Soft Coral Grotto in Benga Lagoon, Yellow Wall at Kadavu Island, Magic Mountain at Namena Island, Great White Wall across from Taveuni, or Mariah's Cove at Matagi Island, you'll see why this title is well deserved. Dreamhouse or Bereqi Beach off of Savusavu are also popular spots. These breathtaking sites are merely to whet the appetite. Fiji is a kingdom of untold natural treasures. It is a land of friendly faces and faraway, secret places. It is the South Pacific paradise you dream about.

Recently we found ourselves on the aft deck of our chartered live-aboard watching the sunset at a remote, uninhabited island in the Northern Lau Group. "What do you suppose these reefs looked like two or three hundred years ago," pondered one of the guests? "You'll find out tomorrow," was the captain's reply. Diving in Fiji can be like that. ■

Greg Brown's Diving Guide to Fiji will be released by Pisces Books in 1993.

Thanks to Greg Lawlor for hospitality extended to the author while on location.



Si Bon

**AFFORDABLE
AUSTRALIA**

SI-BON 78 FEET OF ADVENTURE

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED



Dive - Ribbon Reefs, Pixie
Pinnacle & The Famous Cod Hole
5 day/5 night adventure - \$600

Have a party or barbecue at
Snapper or Lizard Island

Dive - Coral Sea
(Osprey & Bouganville Reefs)
and the outer Great Barrier Reef
5-9 day/night - \$960 to \$1,800
All gear included

For reservations & information call:



(800) 443-0799 (National)
(415) 442-0799 (CA)



(800) 821-6670 (U.S./Canada)
(800) 262-6670 (CA)



(800) 247-3483 (U.S./Canada)
(206) 441-3483 (WA)

When You Earn This



You Qualify For This



The Two Most Recognized Scuba Certifications In The World YMCA Scuba

6083-A Oakbrook Parkway, Norcross, Georgia 30093, (404) 662-5172

DIVE TRAVEL DIRECTORY

GET TIPS AND HELPFUL INFORMATION ON YOUR NEXT DIVE TRAVEL DESTINATION.

ABACO, BAHAMAS



DIVE ABACO

If you're not getting it at home - we'll make sure you get it in...**DIVE ABACO.**

Dive Grouper Alley and pet the famous "Grouper Gilley."

Capt. Skeet LaChance



P.O. Box 555, Marsh Harbor
Abaco, Bahamas
For reservations and information:
809-367-2787

AUSTRALIA



Dive the Great Barrier Reef in Australia

Tours leaving July 23rd and Sept 24th

- A 14-day all inclusive trip to Wonderland
- All air fares from the West Coast
- All meals and accommodations
- Six dive days on the reef
- All ground transportation and the boat too

This is your opportunity to spend a week on exotic South Molle Island at the entrance to the Whitsunday Passage on the Great Barrier Reef. Spend another week touring the magnificent Pacific Coast of Northern Australia.

Best of all, just \$400 down and your passport and you could be on your way, thanks to our special Scuba financing plan with low monthly payments.

Our all inclusive price, **just \$2,900 for the adventure of a lifetime.** This price includes a video record of your trip and your dives.

AUSSIE HOME TOURS

409 Peregrine Drive, SE
Olympia, WA 98503

Ph. (206) 459-4975/Fax (206) 493-6031

AUSTRALIA



GREAT BARRIER REEF - CORAL SEA - YONGALA WRECK

The *Spoilsport*, a catamaran design, 100 feet in length with a 36-foot beam, is without a doubt, Australia's most comfortable, most spacious and most fully equipped live-aboard. The *Spoilsport* cabins have real beds (not bunks); the food is outstanding; and the crew, Australia's best.

The diving here is truly world-class. Outstanding 7-day trips begin as low as \$1,098, and exquisite 9-day special exploratory Coral Sea expeditions at only \$2,144.

TROPICAL ADVENTURES TRAVEL

1-800-247-3483

WA State (206) 441-3483

BAHAMAS



"GET LOST" IN THE OUT ISLANDS aboard BOTTOM TIME II

Why settle for only one island with limited dive sites when the **BOTTOM TIME II** can offer you the best of the BAHAMAS 700 islands at your door step. Hassle free unlimited diving, ultra-clean live aboard accommodations, and superb cuisine...

"Our commitment to you!!!"

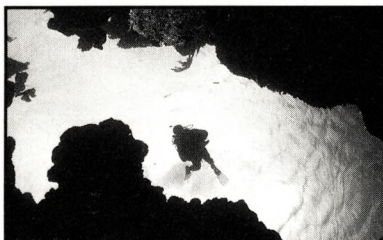
Join us...See... Cay Sal's Blue Holes, The Walls of the Exumas, Shipwrecks, Night Diving, Drift Diving, Swim with Wild Dolphins and much more!



Bottom Time Adventures

For information and reservations
(East Coast 800-234-8464)
(West Coast 800-727-2822)

BELIZE



CATCH THE BUBBLES IN PARADISE - DIVE BELIZE

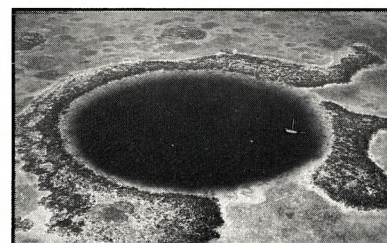
Ambergris Caye, St. Georges Lodge, Blue Marlin, Turneffe Island, Light House Reef, Placencia, Wave Dancer.

Combined trip with stay at mainland for Mayan ruins and jungle adventures. TACA Airlines will take you from 7 US cities daily.

Blue Bonnett Tours

Blue Bonnet Tours
12920 S.W. 122nd Ave.
Miami, FL 33186
1-800-334-8582

BELIZE



BEST IN BELIZE

Escape to a private island resort. Dive the **BLUE HOLE** made famous by explorer Jacques Cousteau, along with 100 other world class sites at Lighthouse Reef. Fly to the island in minutes. Stay in beachfront villas, and sleep with air-conditioning. Walk white sandy beaches, and view majestic sunsets shooting scarlet and gold across the seascape.

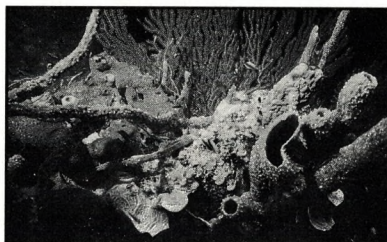
Lighthouse Reef Resort

CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-423-3114

DIVE TRAVEL DIRECTORY

GET TIPS AND HELPFUL INFORMATION ON YOUR NEXT DIVE TRAVEL DESTINATION.

BELIZE



Pamper (pam ' per) v. to treat with extreme indulgence. coddle.

At REEF DIVERS, LTD. we intend to pamper you in every way possible to make this diving vacation the best you have ever experienced.

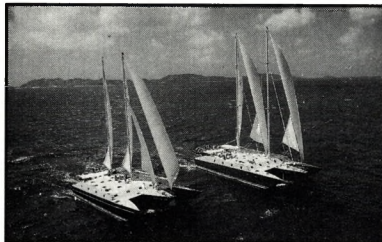
Your toughest decision of the day, should be deciding where to eat that lobster dinner. We take care of the rest. Tank toting, gear assembly, fresh water soak and clean, hang out to dry, (you must dive and breathe on your own). Don't worry, be Pampered!

Belize and REEF DIVERS are synonymous with diving the largest barrier reef in the Western Caribbean. From novice to experienced, the spur and groove canyons and caverns have thrills to offer everyone.



800-447-0474

BVI'S & GALAPAGOS



TRIMARINE

Operating the two largest trimarans in the world, out of two marvelous destinations. The 105' *Cuan Law* in the British Virgin Islands and the 95' *Lammer Law* in the Galapagos. Both boats are set up for diving/ island cruising at it's luxurious best.

Staterooms with private bath - twin or double - spacious saloon - airy shade and sundecks - video and projection facilities - twin dive platforms - highspeed tenders. The attentive, caring crews provide superb food and service and act as your hosts, guides and instructors above and below the water.

TRIMARINE

P.O. Box 4065ST, St. Thomas, V.I. 00803
(809) 494-2490 Fax: (809) 494-5774
(800) 648-3393

BVI



UNDERWATER SAFARIS

The British Virgin Islands...a dive destination for people who only want two things from their vacation... GREAT DIVING AND A SPLENDID HOTEL.

Enjoy a complete diving facility with two locations, three custom built dive boats and some of the best dive sites in the world just minutes away.

Relax in air conditioned rooms, an open air restaurant and two bars. Tennis, sailing school and a private beach club provide a full range of water sports activities.



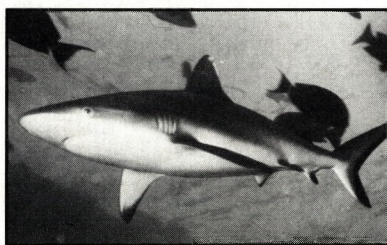
UNDERWATER SAFARIS
P.O. Box 1000 Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands 00801
Tel: 809 494 2332 Fax: 809 494 2332

The Moorings

P.O. Box 1000 Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands 00801

For reservations and information:
800- 537-7032

COSTA RICA



DISCOVER DIVING AT ITS FINEST IN COSTA RICA

5 days/4 nights - El Ocotil Resort

\$789 DOPP

Includes two dives daily, air transfers, 3 nights hotel El Ocotil with breakfast, last night in San Jose, departure tax & gratuity. **Extra day - \$129 DOPP** (including dives)

All dive packages include Tanks, weights, boat & guide (PADI)

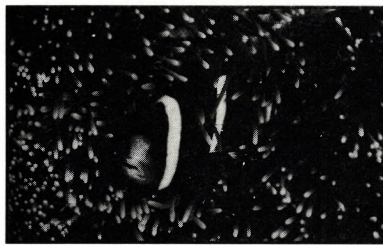
Other dive packages are available

Let Dockside Travel & Tour plan your next dive! Have your travel agent call us at



800-235-3625
in LA (504) 737-8747

FIJI



FIJI'S FINEST DIVING

Beauty, diversity, harmony...warm, inviting, uncrowded, unhurried, informal...and unspoiled. The diving is exquisite from Fiji's best diving resorts and live-aboards. Na Koro, Namale Plantation Resort, Dive Taveuni, Qamea Beach Club, Kontiki, Marlin Bay, Ocean Pacific Club, Dive Kadavu Matana Matagi Resort and live-aboard dive vessels. *Pacific Nomad and Matagi Princess.*

TROPICAL ADVENTURES

TRAVEL
1-800-247-3483

WA State (206) 441-3483

FLORIDA



GINNIE SPRINGS RESORT

Great volumes of pure fresh 72° water flow from our spectacular springs into the nearby Santa Fe River.

Visit us; Dive, Explore and Relax in this pristine Spring country of northern Florida.

Ginnie Springs Resort is a camping resort with a full service dive center and much more...Fun For All!

Ginnie Springs

High Springs, Florida

For information and reservations
1-800-874-8571 / 1-904-454-2202 FL
7300 NE Ginnie Springs Rd
High Springs, FL 32643

DIVE TRAVEL DIRECTORY

GET TIPS AND HELPFUL INFORMATION ON YOUR NEXT DIVE TRAVEL DESTINATION.

HAWAII



BIG ISLAND DIVING WITH PAMPERED LUXURY

Dive the unspoiled Kohala Coast on the Big Island of Hawaii. Conveniently located at Hyatt Regency Waikoloa and the Ritz-Carlton, Mauna Lani resorts. Magnificent lava formations, abundant marine life, multiple whale sightings. Complete PADI and NAUI instruction. Custom 38' dive boat. Adventure-packed dive and catamaran sailing packages with or without accommodations. Ask about our group leader discounts.



HAWAII GRAND CAYMAN, BVI ARUBA
For reservations and more information:
800-255-6425

MISSOURI



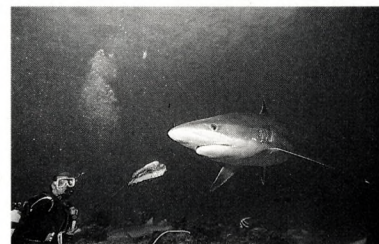
BONNE TERRE MINE DIVE TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH

This unique diving adventure has attracted the Cousteau team, Jack McKinney, and Rick Freshee. Bonne Terre Mine is a journey into history with over 17 miles of navigable shoreline underground, you can enjoy its 58°F beauty year-round. The visibility of the cobalt blue illuminated lake is in excess of 100 feet, making it the clearest inland water in the USA.

AS FEATURED BY
GOOD MORNING AMERICA,
PEOPLE MAGAZINE
AND MANY OTHERS.

West End Diving
(314) 731-5003

PHUKET, THAILAND



M/V FANTASEA

In a largely undiscovered area off the coast of Thailand and Burma lie a series of remarkable dive sites, a plethora of pelagic fish, pristine coral reefs and plentiful sharks.

The comfortable, air-conditioned 100-ft M/V Fantasea takes you on a memorable diving adventure to explore the fabulous Similan Islands and the still unspoiled Burma Banks.



ADVENTURE EXPRESS 800-443-0799
(415) 442-0799 • Fax (415) 442-0289
P.O. Box 20, Patong Beach, Phuket, Thailand 83150
Tel: (66 76) 340088 • Fax: (66 76) 340309

ROATAN, BAY ISLANDS



DIVE ROATAN'S RESPLENDENT REEF

The beautiful Caribbean Island of Roatan, off the coast of Honduras offers excellent diving, bonefishing, snorkeling, and vacationer activities. Dive packages with meals, two boat dives each day, and one night dive during the week are \$575.00, double occupancy.

Combined trip with stay at COPANTL HOTEL on Honduran mainland and visit to Copan's Mayan Ruins also available.



For reservations and more information:
P.O. Box 40331, San Antonio, TX 78229
1-800-328-8897 / 512-681-2888

ROATAN, BAY ISLANDS



ROMEO'S DIVE AND YACHT CLUB ROATAN, BAY ISLANDS

Experience "Diving Excellence and Caribbean Hospitality".

Enjoy our country club style resort with a fresh air dining room and extensive menu, fresh water swimming pool, and our poolside Palapa Bar.

COME DIVE WITH US!



For Reservations Call:
1-800-535-DIVE / 1-305-633-1221

SEA OF CORTEZ



INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO A NEW DIVE BUDDY

Experience the vast beauty of Baja and tranquility of the Sea of Cortez - "The world's largest fishtrap." Enjoy the hospitality and warmth of the people. Sea Adventures offers both live-aboard and land-based packages throughout the Sea of Cortez.



SEA ADVENTURES

"Experts in the Sea of Cortez"
2245 W. Broadway • Mesa, AZ 85202
1-800-798-2474

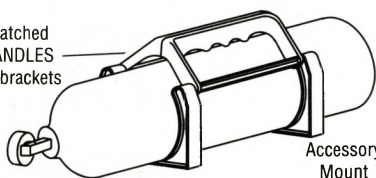
Roll Control System

Ask Your Local Dive Store
or call 1-800-829-6870



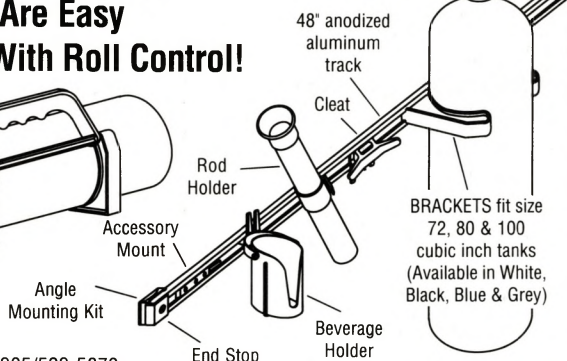
**Dive Tanks Are Easy
To Handle With Roll Control!**

Color-matched
TANK HANDLES
snap into brackets



Dealer Inquiries Welcome
East Coast Plastics, Inc.

1217 NE 9th Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304 • Phone 305/523-5870



BRACKETS fit size
72, 80 & 100
cubic inch tanks
(Available in White,
Black, Blue & Grey)

SAILING & DIVING THAILAND



Our Live Aboard Sailing
Yachts will provide you with
the Diving Holiday of a
Lifetime.

As a PADI Training Facility
we can teach you to DIVE . . .

or combine both.

For brochure, price list &
sailing schedule, write or fax:

**SOUTH EAST ASIA
YACHT CHARTER**
P.O. BOX 15 PATONG BEACH
PHUKET 83150 THAILAND
Tel: 66 76 340406
Fax: 66 76 340586

BELIZE - BONAIRE - BAY ISLANDS - BVI - CAYMANS

CARIBBEAN ADVENTURES

"YOUR CARIBBEAN DIVE TRAVEL EXPERT"



800-934-DIVE

FAX 205-764-6388

ST LUCIA - TOBAGO - ARUBA - TURKS & CAICOS - SABA - JAMAICA - DOMINICA

UNDERWATER PHOTO-TECH

Your complete Underwater Camera Center



- **REPAIRS** - Nikonos, Sea & Sea, Hanimex!
- **SALES** - New and Used U/W Camera Systems!
- **RENTALS** - Complete line of Nikonos and Sea & Sea!
- **ACCESSORIES** - Body Caps, Quick Disconnects, Dbl. Trays!

16 Manning St., Ste. 104 • Derry, NH 03038
(603) 432-1997 • (603) 432-4702 FAX

MEXICO & CARIBBEAN



**SUN & FUN DESTINATIONS
AT WHOLESALE PRICES!
FROM \$149.00**

COZUMEL...
PLAYACAR...
Belize...
ROATAN...
CAYMAN...
GUANAJA...
BAJA...

**1-800-749-DIVE
or
713-789-3483**

**TOP COMMISSIONS PAID TO DIVE
SHOPS & TRAVEL AGENCIES**

BONAIRE

The Most Extensive Lodging Choices and
Discount Airfares to
Bonaire's Best Diving!

**We are the
Bonaire
Adventures
Specialists!**

**800-748-8733
(601) 353-7547**



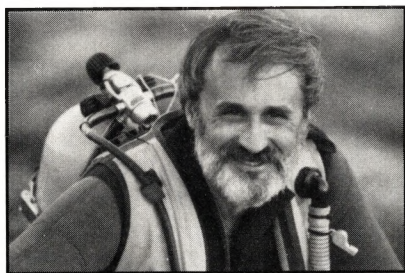
SPORTS & CUSTOM fine jewelry

14K GOLD OR
STERLING SILVER



Mackie Enterprises, Inc.

295 Park Dr., Palatine, IL 60067
708/397-7290 • Visa, MAC, Check, Money Order
Complimentary brochures available



Tap into his years of experience by mailing your peskiest photo problems to Scott in care of *Scuba Times Magazine*, 14110 Perdido Key Drive, Suite 16, Pensacola, FL 32501. Or fax them to (904) 492-7807.

[illegible]

Dive Info Fast

INSTRUCTIONS: Many advertisers in this issue will send you FREE information on their products. Take advantage of this SERVICE. Circle the numbers below that correspond with the Info Card Numbers in the advertiser listing on page 66. Fill in your name and address and mail. Allow several weeks for delivery. Expires 3/93

Dive Info Card

10174

Pick a number

Receive beautiful free brochures and information from the leaders in dive products, services and destinations. Just circle the numbers corresponding to the companies that interest you (see listing on page 66), and drop the reply card in a mailbox.

001	049	203	305	414	477	530	596	630	656	669	D
002	107	204	313	426	479	533	597	631	657	670	E
003	126	213	318	428	481	534	599	632	659	671	F
005	128	216	339	442	485	535	611	633	660	673	G
008	141	217	345	443	490	537	612	638	662	674	H
017	159	245	361	449	499	569	621	641	663	675	
018	160	246	362	466	501	572	622	647	664	676	
030	168	258	373	472	503	589	625	650	665	A	
037	183	298	379	473	507	591	626	652	667	B	
047	187	302	402	475	522	595	628	655	668	C	

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel. (____) _____

☐ *Yes, I want to subscribe!*

☐ As a gift ☐ For myself ☐ For myself and as a gift

MY NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

RECIPIENT'S NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

☐ 6 Issues (1 year) \$11.95 ☐ 12 Issues (2 years) 19.95 ☐ 18 Issues (3 years) \$27.95

Foreign and Canada add \$5 for 1 year and \$10 for 2 years and \$15 for 3 years (U.S. Funds)

☐ Payment enclosed ☐ Bill me later ☐ Bill my VISA card ☐ Bill my MasterCard

Card # _____ Exp. date _____

SCUBA SUBSCRIPTION HOTLINE—(800) 950-7282

10174

*SAVE
OVER 40%*

Subscribe

*DIVE
INFO
FAST*

SUBSCRIBE
TODAY
AND SAVE
OVER
40% OFF
THE
COVER
PRICE



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 7368 NASHVILLE, TN 37204

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Scuba Times
P.O. Box 40702
Nashville, TN 37204-9905



NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO. 7368 NASHVILLE, TN 37204

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

Scuba Times
P.O. Box 40702
Nashville, TN 37204-9905



SCUBA MARKET



... Not Your Typical Tropical Vacation.



CORABAYCRUISES INC.

17 Fort Royal Isle • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308

Diving Expeditions to the Southern Bahamas.
Conception Island, Rum Cay, San Salvador.

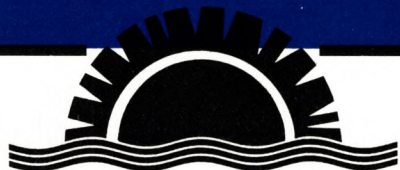
Superb accommodations and service
Great food • Diversions for non-divers.

8 days/7 nights still at \$1295.00 p.p.d.o.

800-433-7262

305-563-1711

Fax 305-563-1811



THE RENAISSANCE
DIVE TRAVEL
CLUB

For your introduction to this new concept in dive
travel with free membership, benefits and a
monthly newsletter,

call **800-242-2012**



CAMERA TECH

1817 BALBOA ST. AT 19TH AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94121

WE SHIP WORLDWIDE

CAMERA REPAIRS
RENTALS - SERVICE - SALES
SPECIALISTS IN
UNDERWATER PHOTO EQUIPMENT
PHOTOGRAPHY
INSTRUCTION
DIVE EXCURSIONS
VIDEO EQUIPMENT
LIGHTING SYSTEMS

(415) 387-1700

Fax (415) 387-8636

SCUBA MARKET ADVERTISING INFO

Save 10% and get results.

When you place your 1/6 or 1/12 page advertisement
in Scuba Market, you'll get a 10% discount off the cost
of your ad. Plus the Scuba Market is designed to attract
attention to your product or service.

To find out how to save money on your ad and get
results in Scuba Market, call 800-234-0060 and ask for
an advertising representative.

R·O·Y·C·E



Discover the beautiful art of Royce B. McClure.
Experience his unique sense of color and design in this
outstanding collection of marine and animal images.
For a free full color poster catalog, and information on
limited editions, originals and commissioned artwork.
Call (818) 352-9966 or write to: The Artgame, 11561
Shelly Vista Dr., Dept C., Tujunga, CA 91042.
Dealer inquiries welcomed. Visa & Mastercard accepted.

**IMPROVE YOUR FAVORITE MASK.
SEE WHAT YOU'VE BEEN MISSING!**

**Your exact prescription
lenses can be added to your mask.
Bi-focals, nearsightedness -
if your eye glasses can correct
it, we can too!**

Prescription

Dive Masks

**Customize
Your Mask**

1. Have a buddy mark your mask face plate with a china marker where your eyes are.
2. Mail or bring in your mask, prescription, name, address & phone number.
3. Lenses are permanently mounted to your mask, Guaranteed!

CALL TODAY FOR PRICE

Curt Walker Optician
800-538-2878

3434 Fourth Avenue, Suite 120
San Diego, CA 92103

DIVE STORE DIRECTORY

Advertising rates: \$103 per year domestic, \$150 per year international (includes shipment of 10 copies per issue for a total of 60 copies per year). All orders must be accompanied by payment. Write *Scuba Times Magazine*; Dive Store Directory; 33 Music Square West, #104, Nashville, TN 37203; (800) 950-7282.

ALABAMA

ADVENTURE SPORTS

(205) 887-8005
212 North Gay St., Auburn, AL 36830
NAUI/YMCA Instruction

ADVENTURE SPORTS, INC.

(205) 269-DIVE
1546 East Ann St., Montgomery, AL 36107
Private classes, htd pool on site, YMCA, NAUI

AQUALA PRO DIVE CENTER

(205) 823-3483
3305 Lorna Rd., #4, Hoover, AL 35216

AQUALINE SCUBA CENTER

(205) 880-6307
8112 S. Memorial Pkwy., Huntsville, AL 35802
PADI, IDEA, Sherwood

CAPITOL DIVE CENTER, INC.

(205) 279-8002
130 Julia, Montgomery, AL 36104
Full Service Scuba Store, NASDS

DEEP SEE DIVE CENTER

(205) 343-3483
7131 Airport Blvd. Mobile, AL 36608
PADI dive center and NAUI pro facility

TROPICAL OUTFITTERS DIVE SHOP

(205) 284-9702
3673 Debby Dr., Montgomery, AL 36111
SSI training facility, Auth. Scuba Pro Dealer

ALASKA

ALASKA AQUATICS

(907) 376-8077
4750 Greenstreet Cr., Wascilla, AK 99654
Dive trips, equip. repair, NAUI, HSA, SSI

ALASKA DIVING SERVICE

(907) 225-4667
1601 Tongass Ave., Ketchikan, AK 99901
Charter, full-line, several specialty courses

ALASKA MINING & DIVING

(907) 279-6113
3222 Commercial Dr., Anchorage, AK 99501
Full service, SSI Instruction, sales, rentals

ARIZONA

AQUA FUN SCUBA CENTER

(602) 886-3535
8484 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85710
SSI Instructor trng. fac, NAUI Pro fac, PADI

ARIZONA SCUBA DIVERS

(602) 783-1177
1632 Fourth Ave., Yuma, AZ 85364
Full service, only PADI in town

DESERT DIVERS

(602) 887-2822/(602) 888-7300/(602) 887-0026 fax
4837 N. 1st Ave., Tucson, AZ 85718
Specializing in trips to the Sea of Cortez, PADI

GECKO DIVE CENTER

(602) 930-1174
4494 W. Peoria Ave., #105,
Glendale, AZ 85302
PADI 5-star facility w/on site pool

EL MAR DIVING CENTER

(602) 833-2971
2245 W. Broadway, Mesa, AZ 85202
trips

SCUBA SCIENCES, INC.

(602) 995-5926
8502 N. Blk Canyon Hwy, Phoenix, AZ 85021
NASDS htd.indoor pool, trips every wkend

SCUBA SCIENCES, INC.

(602) 946-1620
1825 N. Scottsdale Rd., Tempe, AZ 85281
NASDS, indoor htd pool, trips every weekend

ARKANSAS

ARKANSAS SPORT DIVERS

(501) 536-DIVE
1507 W. 6th St., Pine Bluff, AR 71601
PADI Facility, Custom dive boat, charters

CRAWDADDY'S SCUBA SCHOOL

(501) 225-3990
9901 West Markham, Little Rock, AR 72205
Full service facility, travel, NASDS

DIVE SHOP II

(501) 666-DIVE
1222 Westpark, Little Rock, AR 72204
NASDS, Full Service, Dive & Travel

RICK'S PRO DIVE 'N' SKI SHOP, INC.

(501) 753-6004
2323 N. Poplar St., N. Little Rock, AR 72114
PADI 5-star Instructor Development Ctr w/
indoor pool, dive charters, 3 custom dive boats
we teach 13 specialties.

CALIFORNIA

AB SEA PHOTO

(310) 645-8992
9136 Sepulveda, Los Angeles, CA 90045
Two minutes from LAX. U/W photo specialists

ADVENTURES IN DIVING

(714) 499-4517
31678 Coast Hwy., South Laguna, CA 92677
Local site maps, Nitrox, full service facility

ADVENTURES IN DIVING

(213) 320-2782
1644 W. 240th St., Harbor City, CA 90710
Instruction, trips, equipment

AMERICAN AQUATIC ADVENTURES

(209) 578-0515/(209) 578-0689 FAX
1104 Scenic Dr., Modesto, CA 95350
5-STAR PADI DIVE CENTER, Full Svc Ctr

AMERICAN DIVING INSTITUTE

(213) 326-6663
1901 Pacific Coast Hwy, Lomita, CA 90717
Full service dive shop, dive travel, NAUI

AQUA SPORTS

"The Divers Dive Shop"
(209) 224-0744
2436 E. Terrace, Fresno, CA 93703

AQUA TECH DIVE CENTER

(619) 237-1800
1800 Logan Ave., San Diego, CA 92113
PADI 5-star, fac, carries com, mil & sport eq

AQUARIUS DIVE SHOP

(408) 375-1933
2240 Del Monte Ave, Monterey, CA 93940
(408) 375-6605
32 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940
NAUI, PADI full svc u/w photo & video

AQUATIC CENTER

(714) 650-5440
4537 W. Coast Hwy.
New Port Beach, CA 92663
24 Hour Water Report (714) 650-5783

AQUATICS OF SANTA BARBARA

(805) 964-8689
5370 Hollister Av #3, Santa Barbara, CA 93111
Sales, mntls, rprs, dive trips, air fills, instruction
SSI, PADI, NAUI Pro Facility

BAJA EXPEDITIONS - SEA OF CORTEZ

(800) 843-6967/(619) 581-6542 FAX
Live-aboard trips to LA PAZ and SOCORRO
Island. Hotel pkg: 3 dives/day; 4 days \$549,
5 days \$599 air included! Free brochure.
2625 Garnet Ave., San Diego, CA 92109

BAMBOO REEF ENTERPRISES

(415) 362-6694
584 4th St., San Francisco, CA 94107
Sales, Service, Instruction, Rentals

BAMBOO REEF ENTERPRISES

(408) 372-1685
614 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey, CA 93940
Sales, Service, Instruction, Rentals

DEPTH PERCEPTIONS

(805) 528-1070
2360 N. Main St., Morro Bay, CA 93442

DIVE 'N' SURF

(213) 372-8423
504 N. Broadway, Redondo Beach, CA 90277
Indoor solar heated pool, dive boat charters,
rentals, repair, full svc retail facility, NASDS

DIVERS CORNER

(213) 869-7702
12045 Paramount Blvd, Downey, CA 90242

FAT JACK'S SCUBA

(916) 363-3034
1517 28th St., Sacramento, CA 95816
PADI-SSI, Boat Dives-Full Service Shop

MARINA DEL REY DIVERS, INC.

(213) 827-1131
2539 Lincoln Blvd, Marina Del Rey, CA 90291
PADI 5-star fac, sales, rentals, trips, lessons

MOTHER LODGE

(916) 446-4041
2020 H Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
5-star facility, air fills, mntls, repairs, boat trips,
classes, all major brands of equipment, PADI

MR. SCUBA

(714) 838-6483
14151 Redhill, Tustin, CA 92680

OCEAN ODYSSEY DIVE CENTER

(408) 475-DIVE
2345 Rodeo Gulch Rd., Santa Cruz, CA 95062
Open water through instructor, SSI, Nitrox/ deep
air/ tri-mix, ANDI, IAND

OCEAN ODYSSEY

(916) 758-DIVE
130 G Street, Davis, CA 95616
NAUI

ORIGINAL STEELE'S, INC.

(415) 682-5082
1500 Monument Blvd, Concord, CA 94520
Discount dive store, large selection, full service,
classes, NAUI, YMCA, PADI

PASADENA DIVERS WEST

(818) 796-4287
2333 E. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107
Full svc, boat chrtis, PADI 5-star trng facility

SCUBA ADVENTURES

(805) 473-1111
1039 Grand Ave., Arroyo Grande, CA 93420
NAUI, SSI, IDEA, full svc, fac, inst. trng ctr

SCUBA PLUS +

(209) 957-2822
3255 W. Hammer Ln. #11, Stockton, CA 95209
Full service store/school, travel, SSI, PADI

SCUBA TOYS

(714) 527-0430
9547 Valley View, Cypress, CA 90630
Air, mntl, inst, rpr, NAUI trng fac NAUI, PADI

SCUBA UNLIMITED

(415) 734-8343
4000 Pinelico Drive, Suite #114
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Full svc dive & travel, PADI cert & specialties

SCUBA VENTURES

(408) 476-5201
2222 E. Cliff Dr., Santa Cruz, CA 95062
Facility, Instruction, Rentals, Sales, Trips

SCUBA WORLD

(714) 998-6382
1706 Tustin Ave., Orange, CA 92665
Full service, instruction, sales, rentals, NAUI

SCUBAHAUS

(213) 828-2916
2501 Wilshire Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90403
Boat trips, watersports wear, all mjr. brands,
PADI, NAUI

SEA & SEA

(213) 373-6355
1911 S. Catalina Ave., Redondo Bch, CA 90277
Sales, Air, Rentals, Repairs, Trips, NASDS

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(714) 255-0132
2500 E. Imperial Hwy, Ste 150, Brea, CA 92621
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(818) 992-8131
6701 Fallbrook Ave., West Hills, CA 91307
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(714) 848-0988
16242 Beach Blvd., Huntington Bch, CA 92647
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(619) 552-0712
4313 La Jolla Village Dr, Ste. K001,
La Jolla, CA 92122
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(619) 463-9381
5500 Grossmont Ctr Dr., La Mesa, CA 92042
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(213) 657-3210
100 N. La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90048
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(213) 821-9400
13455 Maxella Ave, Marina Del Ray, CA 90292
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(714) 582-3363
27551 Puerta Real, Mission Viejo, CA 92691
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(805) 485-5222
1885 Ventura Blvd., Oxnard, CA 93030
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET DIVERS

(619) 224-6777
3695 Midway Dr., San Diego, CA 92110
Full service NAUI store

SPORT CHALET

(805) 253-3883
24200 Lyons Ave, Santa Clarita, CA 91321
Full service NAUI store

SPORTLAND

(818) 790-9800
920 Foothill Blvd, La Canada, CA 91011
Full service NAUI Store

SUB-SURFACE PROGRESSION

(707) 964-3793
18600 N. Hwy. 1, Ft. Bragg, CA 95437
NASDS

VALLEY AQUATICS

(800) 45-SCUBA
1209 McHenry Ave, Ste.C, Modesto, CA 95350
Full service dive center spec in dive travel

DIVE STORE DIRECTORY

WALLIN DIVE CENTER
(415) 369-2131/(415) 369-2039 FAX
517 E. Bayshore Rd., Redwood City, CA 94063
PADI 5-star and IDS

WEST COAST DIVER'S SUPPLY
(818) 708-8136
16931 Sherman Way, Van Nuys, CA 91406
Rentals, sales, repairs, inst. travel, NAUI

WET PLEASURE
(408) 984-5819
2350 El Camino Real, Santa Clara, CA 95050
NAUI and PADI pro facility. All specialties-
dive master, deep diving, ice diving, u/w hunter,
etc. PADI, NAUI, YMCA

COLORADO

A-1 SCUBA CENTER
(303) 789-2450
1800 W. Oxford, Unit B, Englewood, CO 80110
PADI IDC, travel, retail and instruction

BEAVER DIVERS
(303) 949-1012/(800) 748-2969
41199 US HWY 6 & 24, Eagle Vail, CO 81658
beaver divers t-shirts, hats, polo & rugby
go deep or go home

BLUE MESA SCUBA AND TRAVEL CTR.
34 S. Selig Avenue, Montrose, CO 81401
Travel Dept. (303) 249-3666 and
(800) 273-6372. (In Colorado): SSI

COLORADO SCUBA CENTER
(303) 986-0007
1432 S. Wadsworth, Lakewood, CO 80232
Most specialty classes in area. PADI 5-star

DENVER DIVERS
(303) 399-2877
527 Milwaukee St., Denver, CO 80206
Colorado's lgeest full svc indoor trng. facility.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DIVING CENTER
(303) 232-2400
1920 Wadsworth Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80215
Full line dive store travel, SSI, ITC

SCUBA COLORADO
(303) 225-0777
2716 S. College St., Ft. Collins, CO 80525

SCUBA DEN
(303) 431-1088
6729 W. 44th. Ave., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
Scuba travel planning

SCUBA JOE DIVE CENTER
(303) 444-7234
3152 28th St., Boulder, CO 80301
Exotic trips, all levels of instruction

UNDERWATER PHANTASEAS
(303) 988-6725
160 S. Union, Lakewood, CO 80228
Experience diving at its best, PADI 5-star

CONNECTICUT

BEACH NUT SPORTS CENTER
(203) 399-6534
314 Boston Post Rd., Westbrook, CT. 06498
Full service dive shop, PADI instr., low prices

CENTRAL SALES SCUBA
(203) 283-5007
136 Carter Rd., Thomaston, CT 06787
CT's most affordable dive shop, Sales, svc,
rentals, SSI, PADI, NAUI. Featuring private
villa w/ diving in Freeport Bahamas

DIVER'S COVE & Sea Wolf II
(203) 767-1960
7 Essex Plaza, Essex, CT 06426
Full service scuba store; sales, service, local
& exotic travel. NAUI Pro facility.

INTERNATIONAL SCUBA, LTD.
(203) 621-8265
758 Main St., Plantsville, CT 06479
Full service, sales, classes, repairs, trips

NEW ENGLAND DIVING OF CONNECTICUT
(203) 284-1880
196 N. Colony St. (Rt. 5)
Wallingford, CT 06492
Lessons, sales, service, rentals

ORBIT MARINE SPORTS CENTER, INC.
(203) 333-DIVE
3273 Fairfield Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06605
Sales, rentals, air, svc, charters, PADI, NAUI

SCUBA & PHOTO ADVENTURES, INC.
(203) 645-9212/(203) 649-8488 FAX
364 W. Middle Tnkp., Manchester, CT 06040
Scuba and Specialized Photo Instruction

THE DIVE SITE
(203) 953-DIVE
2551 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111
PADI, Instruction, sales, service

THE DIVING BELL, LTD.
(203) 775-3573
461 Federal Rd., Brookfield, CT 06804
Sales, service, travel, PADI 5-star training ctr

WIN SUM SPORTS
(203) 872-0113
520 Hartford Turnpike, Vernon, CT 06066
PADI certification, full service

DELAWARE

ATLANTIS II, INC.
(302) 734-8040
1233 North Dupont Hwy., Dover, DE 19901
Watersports, Equipment, Training, Travel

FIRST STATE SPORTS, INC.
(302) 998-6357
3313 Old Capital Tr., Wilmington, DE 19720
Instruction, sales, wreck dives, air
NAUI Pro Facility F-006

OLD INLET DIVE SHOP
(302) 227-0999
2204 Hwy 1, Dewey Beach, DE 19971
Instruction and wreck diving

FLORIDA

AMERICAN DIVE CENTER, INC.
Boca Raton (800) 393-0621
In Florida (407) 393-0621
Referrals, NAUI and PADI

AMERICAN DIVING HEADQUARTERS
(800) 634-8464/(305) 451-0037
Box 1250 MM 105.5, Key Largo, FL 33035
Daily instr, reef, wreck, night dives, PADI, air,
hotel, condo, 3 bdrm house, car rental

AQUA SHOP
(800) 763-3772/(407) 848-9042
505 Northlake Blvd., N. Palm Beach, FL 33408
Dive Center, daily trips, boats on site, full svc

AQUATIC ADVENTURES SCUBA
(813) 788-6476
6433 Gall Blvd., Zephyrills, FL 33541
Major manufacturers. PADI, gulf dives

AUSTIN'S DIVING CENTER
(305) 665-0636
10525 S. Dixie Hwy., Miami, FL 33156
Huge inventory, U.S. Divers, Dacor, Sherwood

BLUE GROTTTO
(904) 528-5770
Rt. 3, Box 2790, Williston, FL 32696

CAPTAIN BLACK'S JETTY DIVE STORE
St. Andrews State Park, Thomas Drive
Panama City Beach, FL (904) 233-0504
Gear Rentals, air check dives, guided night
dives, all now available right on the jetties the
gulf coast's best shore dive

DAN'S SCUBA
(813) 446-8275
1754 Drew St., Clearwater, FL 33515
Full service, new & used gear, spring dives
SSI, NASDS

DEEP 6 DIVERS SERVICE
(813) 688-3015
1631 E. Edgewood Dr., Lakeland, FL 33803
NAUI, YMCA

DIVERS DEN
(904) 871-2876
6222 E. Hwy 98, Panama City, FL 32404
NAUI, PADI

DIVERS DEN
(800) 527-DIVE
110 Ocean MM 100, Key Largo, FL 33037
PADI 5-star fac, inst., sales, service, charters

DIVERS UNLIMITED
(305) 981-0156
6023 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood FL 33024
Instructor development center PADI. Awarded
#1 training facility in U.S. by PADI.

DIVE SHOP II SEA MIST MARINA
(407) 734-5566/(800) 221-4279
700 Casa Loma Blvd, Boynton Beach, FL 33435
PADI 5-star fac, inst., sales, service, charters

DOLPHIN DIVE CENTER
(813) 924-2785
6018 S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34231
PADI, NAUI, sales, rentals, air, service charters

FANTASEA SCUBA HEADQUARTERS
(904) 837-6943
#1, Highway 98, Destin, FL 32541
5-star Inst Dev Ctr, D.V.I. resort, sales, service,
gulf charters, instr., rentals, air, travels. PADI

FLORIDA FROGMAN, INC.
(305) 599-9900/(305) 591-2774 FAX
2852 NW 72nd Ave., Miami, FL 33122
Across from Miami Int'l Airport NAUI Pro Fac

FLORIDA KEYS DIVE CENTER
(305) 852-4599/(800) 433-8946
MM 90.5, P. O. Box 391, Tavernier, FL 33070
PADI 5-star Inst. Dev. Ctr
Instr. courses monthly, dive pkgs, dive charters

GINNIE SPRINGS, INC.
(904) 454-2202
7300 NE Ginnie Springs Rd.
High Springs, FL 32643
Cavern Instruction

GULF COAST PRO DIVE
(904) 456-8845
7203 Hwy. 98 W., Pensacola, FL. 32506
NAUI, PADI, full service year round

HAL WATT'S/MR. SCUBA
(407) 896-4541
2219 E. Colonial, Orlando, FL 32803
Specializing in Deep Diving, 40 Fathom Grotto

HYDROSPACE DIVE SHOP
(800) 874-3483/(904) 234-3063
6422 West Highway 98/3605-A Thomas Dr.,
Panama City Beach, FL 32408
The Gulf Coasts largest, most exper. dive svc

LOOKER DIVING
(800) 245-2249
P.O. Box 4035, Key West, FL 33041
Quality diving, air, 3 boats, NAUI and PADI

KEY WEST/VIEWFINDER DIVE CENTER
(305) 292-5000/(800) 860-DIVE
2728 N. Roosevelt Blvd., Key West, FL 33040
Photo/Video Hdqtrs-PADI- trips and dive pkgs

LAUDERDALE DIVE
(800) 654-2073/(305) 467-2822
1334 SE 17th St., Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316
Full service with 40' dive boat-Lauderdale
Diver, PADI-up to assistant instructor

OCEAN DIVING SCHOOLS OF FLORIDA
(305) 943-3337
750 E. Sample Rd., Pompano Beach, FL 33064

PALM BEACH DIVINGHEADQUARTERS
(407) 848-4444/(800) 622-0555
180 East 13th St. Riviera Beach, FL 33404
Non-Crowded Personalized Diving, Daily
Diving Tours and PADI, NAUI Instruction
"DRIFT DIVING AT ITS BEST"
BOATS: KOLLERS REEF AND PARADISE
DIVER

PANAMA CITY DIVE CENTER
(904) 235-3390/(800) 832-DIVE
4823 Thomas Drive, Panama City, FL 32408
SIs, svc, daily chrtrs Scubapro, Tabata, Sherwood,
PADI, NAUI Instr training ctr, Divemaster ITC's

RAINBOW REEF DIVE CENTER
(800) 457-4354/(305) 852-9300
90511 Overseas Hwy., Tavernier, FL 33070
PADI instruction, dive/accommodation pkgs.

REEFTIX
(405) 451-6333
103 400 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo, FL 33037

SCUBA SHOP
(904) 243-1600
348 SW Miracle Strip
Ft Walton Beach, FL 32548; PADI, NAUI, SSI

SCUBA WEST
(813) 863-6911
8109 New York, Ave., Hudson, FL 34667
1st 5-star facility on W. Coast, all specialties,
local and exotic travel

SEAFARI SPORT & DIVE SHOP, INC.
(407) 747-6115
304 Old Dixie Hwy. Jupiter, FL 33458
Travel Agency, Dive Boat, Prvt. & Certification

SEAPRO SCUBA CENTER OF PALM BCH
(407) 844-3483
3619 Broadway, Riviera Beach, FL 33404
5-Star PADI training fac, "State of the Art" Rntl
Dept., Prfnl Rpr, Daily reef & wreck trips.

SEA SPORTS AND SCUBA
(813) 334-4616
1913 Linhart Ave., Ft. Myers, FL 33901
Scuba & Windsurfing Instruction

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA DIVE ACADEMY
(813) 774-1234
4125 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, FL 33962
Indoor heated pool

SOUTHWIND DIVERS, INC.
(904) 932-2224
33 Gulf Breeze Pkwy, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561
PADI, full svc fac, daily wreck diving trips

T & S DIVE CENTER
(305) 235-6043
20523 Old Cutler Rd., Miami, FL 33189
Sales, trips, instr, air, PADI o/w thru Asst. Inst.

TACKLE SHACK DIVING HDQTRS
(813) 546-5080
7801 66th St., N. Pinellas Park, FL 34665
Large inventory of hard to find items

TALLEY'S FLORIDA ACADEMY OF DIVING
(904) 563-5111/(800) 733-DIVE
7768 W. Gulf to lake Hwy. 44
Crystal River, FL 34429
Manatee Tours - 3 Day certification

TALLEY'S PRO DIVE
(904) 795-2776
910 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 32629
Open wtr. cert. 3 days of fun \$195. Full svc dv.
ctr Tours: Manatees, Crystal & Rainbow rvs

DIVE STORE DIRECTORY

THE SCUBA CLUB, INC.
(800) 835-2466/(407) 844-2466
4708 N. Dixie Hwy, West Palm Bch, FL 33407
America's only country club for divers since
1972, NAUI, PADI, YMCA

**THE SCUBA DISCOVERY
PRO DIVE CENTER**
(904) 656-3483/(904) 656-7665
2320-B Apalachee, Tallahassee, FL 32301
North Florida's largest PADI 5-star dive center

UNDERSEAS, INC.
(800) 446-5663/(305) 872-2700
U.S.1, MM 30.5, Big Pine Key, FL 33043
Loose Key trips daily, rentals, repairs, sales, PADI

UNDERWATER SPECIALISTS
(813) 656-DIVE
80-G Pondella Road, N. Ft. Myers, FL 33903
PADI 5-star, dive chrters, full service, 7 days

URGE 2 SUBMERGE DIVE & TRAVEL
(305) 388-0008
11278 SW 137 Ave., Miami, FL 33186
Professional training, PADI, travel, charters

VORTEX SPRINGS, INC.
(904) 836-4979
Rte 2, Box 650, Hwy 81 North,
Ponce De Leon, FL 32455
Sales, service, rentals, 5,000 PSI, canoe rentals,
group lodging, RV hook-ups, 50' deep spring,
clear water all year, no waves,

WHITECAPS DIVE SHOP
The Breakers Hotel, Palm Beach, FL 33480
(407) 659-8497
PADI Inst, boat trips, rentals, & snorkeling

WORLD DOWN UNDER, INC.
(800) 245-3483
PO Box 1001, Islamorada, FL 33036
"Cheeca view," mtl boats, trips, gear mntl, sales

GEORGIA

BERRY SCUBA
(404) 766-1186
3443 Stewart, Hapeville, GA 30354
PADI lessons, service, rentals

DIVE, DIVE, DIVE...
(404) 476-7833
2131 Pleasant Hill Rd., Gwinnett Mall Corners,
Duluth, GA 30136
NAUI Pro Facility

DIVE SOUTH
(912) 681-1764
836 S. Main, Statesboro, GA 30458

DIVING WORLD USA
(404) 634-4354
2945 Buford Hwy, Atlanta, GA 30329, PADI

ISLAND DIVE CENTER
(800) 940-DIVE
Marina Village, St. Simons Isl, GA 31520
PADI 5-star Training Fac, Scubapro Dealer,
instr., sales, service, rental, air, local charters

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES UNLIMITED
(912) 474-6790
5208 Mercer Univ. Dr., Macon, GA 31210

SCALES, TAILS & SCUBA TOO
(912) 272-1063
1016 Claxton Dairy Rd., #2-E,
Dublin, GA 31021-7941
Full service dive and aquarium store

SEA SPORTS, INC.
(404) 664-9176
11240 Alpharetta Hwy, Ste. 200
Roswell, GA 30076
PADI 5-STAR IDC, travel, service

SOUTHERN OCEAN SPORTS
(912) 244-4084
1607 North Ashley St., Valdosta, GA 31602
NAUI, PADI, rentals, sales, instruction, travel,
trips, USA Divers, Dacor, Pro-Sub

THE DIVE SHOP
(404) 424-7700
950 S. Cobb Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30062
NASDS IDC, classes, Caribbean & FL trips

HAWAII

A SEA PARADISE
(808) 322-2500/(800) 322-KNOA
78-7128 Kalicopapa Road
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740: PADI, full service

BOJAC AQUATIC CENTER
(808) 671-0311/(808) 671-1670 FAX
94-801 Farrington Hwy, Waipahu, HI 96797
NAUI Pro facility, indoor heated pool

DIVE KAUAI
(808) 822-0452
4-976 Kuhio Hwy, Kapaa, Kauai, HI 96746
Full service, sales, rentals, boat charters

EPIC DIVES HAWAII
(808) 236-EPIC (3742)
45781 Kamehameha Hwy
Kaneohe, HI 96744
Hawaii tech diving *deep, nitrox & trimix

FIRST CHOICE ON KAUAI!
(800) 659-DIVE/(808) 822-3841
Boat, shore, & intro. dives, PADI/SSI cert.
Sea Sage 4-1378 Kuhio Hwy,
Kapaa, HI 96746

KONA COAST DIVERS
(800) 562-3483/(808) 329-5741 FAX
75-5614 Palani Rd., Kailua Kona, HI 96740
Full svcrecreation scuba ctr, PADI 5-star,
NAUI Pro, SSI facility, dive & travel pkgs

LAHAINA DIVERS
(800) 657-7885
710 Front St., & Whalers Village
Lahaina, Maui, HI 96761.
Charters, training, rentals, PADI 5-star W/
NAUI & SSI OW Comp.

IDAHO

BOISE WATER SPORTS
(208) 342-1378
3204 Overland Rd., Boise, ID 83705

H & H DIVE & TRAVEL
(208) 233-7802
1684 Kraft Road, Pocatello, ID 83201
60,000 gallon training aquarium, NAUI pro fac,
PADI & HSA cert., Handicap Scuba Assoc.

THE SCUBA DIVING CO.
(208) 343-4470
3707 Overland., Boise, ID 83705
PADI

ILLINOIS

ADVENTURES IN SCUBA
(312) 935-DIVE
1730 W. Fullerton, River Pt. Shopping Ctr
Chicago, IL 60614
Full svc, Lake MI wreck dives, sls, instr., PADI

AQUANAUTS ODYSSEY
(312) 326-3330
314 w. 31st, Chicago, IL 60616
PADI, classes, trips, Lake MI wreck chrters, svc

BARRACUDA BRAD'S
(815) 33-SCUBA
680 S. Eastwood Dr., Woodstock, IL 60098
PADI 5-star Fac, 84-degree indoor pool, Travel,
Sales, Lk MI chrters "Your one stop dive facility"

BERRY SCUBA
(312) 763-1626
6674 N. Northwest Hwy, Chicago, IL 60631
PADI

BERRY SCUBA
(708) 495-2822
36 Yorktown Ctr. Lombard, IL 60148
PADI lessons, service, rentals

BLACK MAGIC DIVE SHOP
(708) 362-DIVE
334 Peterson Rd., Libertyville, IL 60048
Local and trop. charters, PADI 5-star facility

CLIFTON DIVING VENTURE
(815) 758-0128
Corner Rt 23 & Harvey St, DeKalb, IL 60115
Complete instruction and specialties, PADI

D.I.V.E. SYSTEMS, INC.
(708) 449-FINS
1812 Taft Ave., Berkeley, IL 60163
NAUI, PADI, full service, travel

FROGG POND DIVE SHOP
(708) 432-5055
2310 Skokie Valley Rd, Highland Pk, IL 60035
URR training specialists

GREAT LAKES DIVERS
(708) 482-7788
541 S. La Grange Rd., La Grange, IL 60525
Full service store, and travel

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF DIVING
(708) 858-8884
436 Roosevelt Road, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
Full svc, sales, travel & instr, NAUI, SSI, PADI

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF DIVING
(312) 929-0500
1017 W. Diversy Pkwy., Chicago, IL 60614
PADI

JUST ADD WATER SCUBA
(708) 357-6264
790 Royal St. George, #114 Naperville, IL 60563
NAUI instruction, full service facility

MID AMERICA SCUBA II
(618) 624-8881
5900 N. Illinois, #9, PO Box 1934
Fairview Hts, IL 62208
Full service facility, local diving

MIDWEST DIVING SPECIALISTS
(309) 452-0222
203 S. Linden, Normal, IL 61761
5-star facility, sales, service, travel

OCEAN'S DOOR, INC.
(708) 295-0787
225 E. Deerpath, Lake Forest, IL 60045
PADI 5-star dive center, full service

PRO DIVE SHOP, INC.
(217) 428-0599
1027 W. Eldorado St., Decatur, IL 62522
Instruction, sales, dive vacations

PROSPECT DIVE & SPORT SHOP
(708) 259-0606 Comp. (708) 259-1146
870 S. Arthur, Arlington Heights, IL 60005
Free Air Fills, Divers computer bulletin bd. svc
NAUI, PADI, SSI, MDEA

ROCKFORD SCUBA CENTER
(815) 282-DIVE
3424 N. Main Str., Rockford, IL 61103
PADI trng fac, rental, sales, service, travel

SCUBA DIVING SCHOOLS OF AMERICA
(708) 896-1113
4S100 Rte 59, Naperville, IL 60563
Full svc fac, travel svc, NASDS, open 7 days

SCUBA RESOURCE DTC, INC.
(312) 236-4400/(312) 236-1129 FAX
111 W Washington St. # 1525, Chicago, IL 60602
MDEA, PADI, ASEA; business & legal consult.

SCUBA SPORTS
(217) 787-DIVE
1609 S. MacArthur Blvd., Springfield, IL 62704
Training/Travel/Rental

SEA LEVEL DIVING
(815) 455-3181
1809 S. Rt. 31, McHenry, IL 60050
Dacor, US Divers, Ocean Edge

SENTRY POOL & DIVE
(800) 443-8625
1529-46th Ave., Moline, IL 61265
PADI 5-Star Full Facility

UNDERWATER SAFARIS
(312) 337-6151
620 N. LaSalle, Chicago, IL 60610
Full svc facility, trips, rentals, air, etc. PADI

UNDERWATER SAFARIS
(312) DIVE-999
2950 North Lincoln Ave., Chicago, IL 60657
Full svc, fac, trips, mntls air, PADI 5-Star, pool

INDIANA

ANCHOR DIVE CENTER
(219) 426-3483
1720 Lake Ave., Ft. Wayne, IN 46805
PADI 5-star training facility

DIVERS SUPPLY MUNCIE, INC.
(317) 288-4868
3715 S. Walnut St., Muncie, IN 47302
Slrs, ser, rpr, mtl, college cr. approved courses

DIVERS WORLD INC.
(812) 423-2738
1271 E. Morgan Avenue, Evansville, IN 47711
Full rentals, sales, service, education; NASDS

DIVING DEN, INC.
(317) 452-1034
2229 E. County Rd., 00NS, Kokomo, IN 46902
Full service, sales, instruction, specialties

DNP DIVING, INC.
(219) 735-DIVE/(219) 739-2265 FAX
604 East Main St., Logansport, IN 46947
PADI 5-star trng fac, sales, service, mntls, travel

EVANSVILLE SCUBA CENTER, INC.
(812) 424-6667
1319 N. 1st Ave., Evansville, IN 47710
PADI

LAKE COUNTY DIVERS
(219) 942-0016
305 Main St., (Rt. 51), Hobart, IN 46342
Dacor equip, PADI 5-star IDC trng facility

MICHIGAN CITY SCUBA CENTER
(219) 874-8979
510 E. 2nd St., Michigan City, IN 46360
PADI certification

MIDWEST SCUBA CENTER
(317) 872-2522
4306 W. 96th St., Indianapolis, IN 46268
On-site indoor pool, 5-star Facility; PADI

**SCUBA ADVENTURES & DIVERS
SUPPLY COMPANY**
(317) 253-2000
1079 Broadripple Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46220

TERRY'S UNDERWATER SERVICE
(219) 534-5378
309 N. Eighth St./P O Box 56,
Goshen, IN 46526 YMCA

THE MERMAIDS QUEST
(219) 256-6875
305 E. McKinley, Us.20E, Mishawaka, IN 46545
Lessons, rentals, sales, air. PADI

IOWA

OKOBOJI SCUBA CENTER L.P.
(712) 332-5054
Maywood Square Mall, Arnolds Park, IA 51331
Svc, mntls, classes, 5000 PSI air, NAUI, IDEA

KANSAS

MIDWEST DIVING CENTER, INC.
(316) 265-3555
2150 E. Douglas, Wichita, KS 67214
Equip, repairs, air, trips, heated pools, hydro
PADI full service training facility

DIVE STORE DIRECTORY

THE DIVE SHOP

(913) 677-DIVE
7300 Frontage Rd., Merriam, KS 66203
NAUI pro facility, Full service facility

KENTUCKY

AQUARIUS DIVE SHOP

(606) 431-8626
800 Elm Street, Ludlow, KY 41016

FANTASY SCUBA CENTER

(606) 266-0100
115 North Locust Hill Dr.
Lexington, KY 40509
Full line scuba store

KENTUCKY DIVING HEADQUARTERS

(502) 897-6481
3928 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40207
Top pro. equip. for less. See our large showroom.

LOUISVILLE DIVE SHOP

(502) 458-8427
2478 Bardstown Rd, Louisville, KY 40205
Everything in Diving

NEMO'S UNDER-SEE ADVENTURES

(606) 672-3152
51 Main St.,Hyden, KY 41749
Dive Boat, U/W Vehicle Specialty; PADI

NORTHERN KENTUCKY DIVING CTR.

(606) 283-1550
733 Burlington Pike, Florence, KY 41042
SSI, Instructor training facility, indoor heated pool on location, sales, service & rental

LOUISIANA

AQUA TECH DIVE CENTER

(504) 341-3483
6101 Westbank Expwy, Marrero, LA 70072
Full service shop. PADI

HARRY'S DIVE SHOP, INC.

(504) 888-4882
4709 Airline Hwy., Metairie, LA 70001
Dive the rigs off LA. from our 65' *Flipper Too*.

SEVEN SEAS

(504) 926-1819
7865 Jefferson Hwy., Baton Rouge, LA 70809
Full facility, teach, retail, repair all equipment, in store travel agency, NAUI PADI, YMCA

THE WATER HABITAT OF

ALEXANDRIA
(318) 443-5075
P.O. Box 893; 3327 Jackson Street, Ste. A
Alexandria, LA 71309

MAINE

MAINE DIVERS

(207) 990-3483
368 Harlow Street, Bangor, ME 04401
Sales, service, instruction, PADI

MARYLAND

AQUA VENTURES, INC.

(410) 66-OCEAN
9731 York Rd, Cockeysville, MD 21030
Full svc fac, priv. & group instr., SSI

BETHANY WATERSPORTS

(301) 461-DIVE
3275 Bethany, Ellicott City, MD 21043
Full service store, Authorized Scubapro dealer,
Open M-F 12-7, Sat. 11-5

DIVERS DEN INC.

(301) 668-6866
8105 Harford Road, Baltimore, MD 21234
Full service, wreck diving, dive travel (Bonaire),
Seaquest, Scubapro, Dacor; NASDS

EAST COAST DIVERS

(410) 939-9030/(410) 939-6175
311 Saint Johns St., Harve De Grace, MD 21078
Full Service, PADI

MASSACHUSETTS

AQUARIUS DIVING CENTER, INC.

(508) 759-DIVE
3239 Cranberry Hwy. Buzzard's Bay, MA 02532
Auth. Scubapro dealer, Instr., sales, air, rntl., dive travel. Open M-F 9-7; Sat & Sun 9-5; PADI

DIVERS MARKET

(508) 746-3326
305 Court St., Plymouth, MA 02360
Sales, service, dive charters & dive travel; PADI

DIVERS WORLD, INC.

(508) 251-4895
195 Princeton St., N. Chelmsford, MA 01863
Full service facility, PADI

GET WET SPORTS

(617) 762-1990 Norwood/(617) 232-9912 Boston
36 Vanderbilt Ave., Norwood, MA 02062
1032 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02215
The most complete dive store in the USA; PADI

INLAND DIVERS

(508) 892-3323
100 S. Main St., Leicester, MA 01524
Full svc fac, indoor pool, wetsuit repair NAUI,
PADI

NORTHEAST SCUBA, INC.

(508) 777-DIVE
125 Liberty St., Danvers, MA 01923

SOUTH SHORE SKIN DIVERS INC.

(617) 331-1144
147 Bridge St., Weymouth, MA 02191
Sales, service, rentals, lessons. PADI

THE SCUBA CENTER

(508) 761-5015
One Highland Ave., S. Attleboro, MA 02703
Full svc, local and tropical dive travel
(Caribbean), all specialties available; PADI

UNDERSEA DIVERS, INC.

(508) 927-9551
42 Water St., Beverly, MA 01915
Sales, instruction, air, rentals, service, Boat dives,
U/W photo specialists, PADI

UNITED DIVERS, INC.

(617) 666-0410/(617) 623-DIVE
59 Washington St., Somerville, MA 02143
U/W video spec., rental & new units, full svc

MICHIGAN

DEEP SIX SCUBA SCHOOLS

(517) 892-2715
884 N. Pine Rd., Essexville, MI 48732
Full service, instruction, travel

DIVERS INCORPORATED

(313) 971-7770/(313) 971-2925 FAX
3380 Washtenaw Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104
PADI 5-Star IDC, full service center

DIVERS INCORPORATED

(313) 451-5430/(313) 451-5429 FAX
42295 Ann Arbor Rd., Plymouth, MI 48170
PADI 5-star IDC

DIVE SITE

(616) 323-3700/(800) 622-6235
9125 Portage Rd., Kalamazoo, MI 49002
S.S.I., Training from beginner to instructor

DON'S DIVE SHOP

(313) 477-7333
29480 10 Mile Rd, Farmington Hills, MI 48024
PADI 5-star dive ctr, open wtr. & adv., dive mstr., nt. dvg., ice dvg., cpr. 1st aid, FL & Caribbean trips, Full service

GREAT LAKES DIVE LOCKER

(616) 531-9440
122 44th St. SE, Ste. E, Kentwood, MI 49508
Full service, year round PADI instruction

GREAT LAKES SCUBA

(616) 946-1602
2187 N. US # 31 South
Traverse City, MI 49684
Sales, Service, Rentals, Trips

MICHIANA SCUBA

(616) 683-4502
301 East Main, Niles, MI 49120
Compl. training fac, sales, rprs., air, trvl., PADI

MICHIGAN UNDERWATER SCHOOLS OF DIVING

(313) 388-1322
3280 Fort St., Lincoln Park, MI 48146
Classes taught, Indoor Hid Pool, Travel, Sls, Ser

SCUBA NORTH, INC.

(616) 947-2520
13380 W. Bayshore Dr, Traverse City, MI 49684
Yr round instr, dive trips, local chrtr, rntls, rprs., & hydros, all mjr brands, pkg. prices, NAUI

THE DIVE SHOP

(313) 732-3900/(313) 732-4350
G-4020 Corunna Rd., Flint, MI 48532
SSI, basic-adv. classes avail., full svc store

THE SCUBA SHACK, INC.

(517) 821-6477
9982 W. Higgins Lake Dr.
Higgins Lake, MI 48627
S.S.I., Full service dive store

WEST MICHIGAN DIVING CENTER INC.

(616) 755-3771
2367 W. Sherman Blvd., Muskegon, MI 49441
5-star PADI training facility

MINNESOTA

INNERSPACE SCUBA CENTER

(218) 729-9028
4910 Miller Trunk Hwy., Duluth, MN 55811
Full line scuba

MINNESOTA SCHOOL OF DIVING

(218) 829-5953
712 Washington St, Brainerd, MN 56401
PADI, commercial diving & instruction

SCUBA CENTER

(612) 925-4818
5015 Penn Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55419
Travel specialists, PADI, Full Service

SMITH DIVING

(612) 789-DIVE
2622 Central NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418
NAUI Pro facility

UNDERWATER SCHOOL OF AMERICA

(612) 473-4266
580 Willow Drive, Long Lake, MN 55356
Full service facility, NASDS

UNDERWATER SCHOOL OF AMERICA

(612) 770-5555
3035 White Bear Ave., Maplewood, MN 55109
Full service facility, NASDS

MISSISSIPPI

DIVE FIVE, INC.

(601) 832-8637
Suite STE, 2650 W. Beach Blvd.
Biloxi, MS 39531
PADI, US Divers, Sherwood, & Sea Quest

MISSOURI

ACADEMY OF SCUBA TRAINING, INC.

(314) 335-0756
437 Broadway, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
Lessons, specialty courses, PADI

CAPTAIN JOHN'S SPORTS & SCUBA

(417) 673-2724
P.O. Box E, MM Hwy., Oronogo, MO 64855
14-acre diving lake on premises, PADI 5-star

CAPT. NEMO'S DIVE SHOP

(314) 442-DIVE
1414B Rangeline St., Columbia, MO 65201

COLUMBIA SCUBA CENTER

(314) 443-4100
1213 B Old Hwy 63 N
Columbia, MO 65201
Full service dive facility

DIVER'S EQUIPMENT SCUBA CENTER

(816) 763-6125
5800 Barrymore Dr., Kansas City, MO 64134
NASDS instructor training facility. We specialize in specialty diving

INNERWORLD DIVING CENTER

(314) 391-0005
14021 Manchester Rd., Manchester, MO 63011
PADI authorized training facility

SKIN-N-SCUBA

(816) 358-0855/(816) 358-0858 FAX
9300 E. 35th St., Independence, MO 64052
Sales, service, pro shop; PADI 5-star

YMCA UNDERWATER SPORTS

(314) 352-9200
7269 Watson Rd., St. Louis, MO 63119
PADI 5-star Instructor Development Center

WEST END DIVING CENTER

(314) 731-5003
11215 Natural Bridge Rd, Bridgeton, MO 63044
Full service store, SSI

Y-KIKI DIVERS

(314) 469-8722
12959 Olive Arcade Pl., St Louis, MO 63141
YMCA, CMAS, NAUI pro facility, full svc

MONTANA

BOZEMAN WATER SPORTS

(406) 585-9926
407 W. Main, Bozeman, MT 59715

NEBRASKA

DIVESTAR SCUBA DIVING SCHOOL

(402) 391-1155
2322 North 72nd St., Omaha, NE 68134
Sales, service, school, travel, air, rental, NASDS

HEARTLAND SCUBA CENTER

(308) 237-7943/(800) 344-DIVE
101 E. 24th St., Kearney, NE 68847
PADI 5-star Dive Center

NEVADA

DAWN'S HIGH DESERT DIVERS

(702) 753-6706
246 Croydon Ct., Elko, NV 89801
Full svc dive shop, Dacor, Sherwood, PADI

NEPTUNE DIVERS

(702) 564-LAKE
600 W. Sunset, #103, Henderson, NV 89015
PADI, rapids, river diving

NEW HAMPSHIRE

LAPORTE'S SKINDIVING SHOP

(603) 763-5353
Rte 103, Box 53, Newbury, NH 03255
Sales, ser, PADI Cert., rntl, air, salvage, repair

UNDERWATER SPORTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

(603) 357-4430
334 Park Ave., Keene, NH 03431
PADI 5-star Trng, rntls, rprs, air, Top grade equipment at lowest prices.

DIVE STORE DIRECTORY

NEW JERSEY

ATLANTIC DIVERS, INC.
(609) 641-7722
RD 3, Box 4 Fire Rd., Pleasantville, NJ 08232
Year-round wreck divg., lrgst dive sched. in NJ

DIVE SHOP OF NEW JERSEY
(609) 589-2434
RD 1, 33 Delsea Drive, Hurffville, NJ 08080

DIVERS COVE
(908) 583-27-7
Hwy 35, Laurence Harbor, NJ, 08879
Full service, instruction training, travel Bonaire,

DIVERS TWO, INC.
(201) 776-7755
1 Main St., Avon By the Sea, NJ 07717
Full svc dive store, PADI 5-star IDC

DOSILS SPORT CENTER
(201) 787-0508
261 Hwy 36 North, Middletown, NJ 07734
PADI full service facility

EAST COAST DIVING SERVICE
(201) 591-9374
340F Spring Valley & Texas Rd.
Morganville, NJ 07751
New Jersey's 1st PADI 5-Star trng & travel fac

EAST COAST DIVING SUPPLY
(609) 646-5090
1002 New Rd, Northfield, NJ 08225
Sales, lessons, rentals, repairs; NAUI, PADI

ELITE DIVERS, INC.
(201) 586-2214
Brick Church Plaza at Rt. 46
Rockaway, NJ 07866
Full svc dive store, NAUI, PADI

FANTASEA
(908) 846-5200
37 South Main St., Milltown, N.J. 08850
YMCA, Sherwood, Parkway, Tusa

LAKELAND SCUBA DIVERS
(201) 887-0194
92 Route #10, E. Hanover, NJ 07936
Indoor heated pool, sales, rentals, repairs,
PADI, NAUI, YMCA

NEW JERSEY SCUBA SUPPLY
(609) 751-6702
1990 East Rte. 70, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003
Chrtres-local & islands, equip, svc, NAUI, PADI

PRINCETON AQUA SPORTS
(609) 924-4240
306 Alexander St., Princeton, NJ 08540
PADI 5-star IDC instruction, travel, rental

PROFESSIONAL DIVERS INC.
(908) 775-8292
70 Hwy 35, Neptune City, NJ, 07753
PADI, SSI, NASDS, Scuba Pro

THE SCUBA CENTER
(908) 462-4660
4237 Hwy. 9, Freehold, NJ 07728
Full PADI facility, Dacor, Tabata, other brands

UNDERWATER ADVENTURES INC.
(201) 584-2789
1152 Route 10, Randolph, NJ 07869
Full svc. training facility, charters, mntls.; PADI

UNDERWATER DISCOVERY, INC.
(201) 270-9100
2722 Rt. 37 East, Toms River, NJ 08753
Come see the Professionals, PADI, Full service

UNDERWATER SPORTS
(201) 843-3340
Route 17 South, Rochelle Park, NJ 07662
Scuba Pro dealer; full svc; indoor htd. pool

WHITEHOUSE AQUATIC CENTER
(201) 534-4090
6 Hwy #22 W., Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889
Sales, service, air, lessons, trips

NEW MEXICO

POTTER SCUBA CENTER
(505) 523-2911
301 N. Solano, Suite 5, Las Cruces, NM 88001
PADI certification, full service dive store, travel

NEW YORK

AA #1 DIVE INC.
(516) 872-4571
1 South Central Ave. Valley Stream, NY 11580
Corner of Merric Rd., PADI, Chrtres. & mntls.,
Safe-air, equip. best prices & service

AQUATIC WORLD LTD.
(315) 458-1955
114 Kreischer Rd., N. Syracuse, NY 13212
Full svc trng fac, rentals, lessons, PADI

BYRAM BAY SPORTS INC.
(914) 937-2685
500 N. Main St., Port Chester, NY 10573
PADI 5-star, classes, trips, sls, mntl. rprs & more

CAPTAIN MIKE'S DIVING SERVICES
(212) 885-1588
634 City Island Ave., Bronx, NY 10464
PADI, Full service dive charter boats

CRANDALL'S SCUBA & SNORKELING
(607) 733-6901
1540 1/2 Pennsylvania Avenue
Pine City, NY 14871
Full Service, Guided Dives to Finger Lakes

DIVE LOCKER
(914) 381-5935
621 E Boston Post Rd, Mamaroneck, NY 10543
Sales, svc, rentals, air fills, PADI

DUTCHESS DIVING CENTER, INC.
(914) 462-0255
503 South Rd., Rt. 9, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
NAUI Pro facility, US Divers, Tekna

GREAT LAKE DIVERS INC.
(716) 836-6900
244 Niagra Falls Blvd, Buffalo, NY 14223
Sales, service, lessons, trips: NASDS

ISLAND SCUBA CENTER
(516) 546-2030
74 Woodcleft Ave., Freeport, NY 11520

MIDDLETOWN SCUBA SUPPLY
(914) 343-2858
17 Dolson Ave. Rt 17 M
Middletown, NY 10940
Full service store: PADI, SSI

NATIONAL AQUATIC SERVICES
(315) 479-5544/(800) 843-4834
1732 Erie Blvd., Syracuse, NY 13210
Full service facility, worldwide travel: NASDS

PAN AQUA DIVING, INC.
(212) 496-2267
101 W. 75 St., New York, NY 10023
Basic instruction, local group trips and travel,
on-site compressor, open 7 days per week
PADI, NAUI, YMCA

PECONIC SCUBA
(516) 727-7578
1140 Flanders Rd., Rte. 24, Riverhead,
NY 11801: PADI

PISCES SCHOOL OF DIVE
(212) 947-5018
781 Fairport East, Rochester, NY 14445
Certified travel, weekly boat dives

PROFESSIONAL SCUBA
(716) 648-DIVE
5777 Camp Rd, Hamburg (Buffalo), NY 14075
Full service, Scubapro, PADI

PUTNAM DIVE CENTER
(914) 628-1386
Rt. 6 N., PO Box 713, Mahopac, NY 10541
5-star PADI dive center

RICHARD'S AQUA LUNG CENTER
(212) 947-5018
233 W. 42nd St., New York, NY 10036
Largest year-round shop.

SCUBA TRAINING & EQUIP. CENTER
(914) 358-6250
12 Bobby Lane, West Nyack, NY 10994
Air, sales, rentals, repairs, instruction: NAUI

SUFFOLK DIVING CENTER
(516) 261-4388
58 Larkfield Rd., East Northport, NY 11731
Group dives, travel charters, PADI, SSI

THE ENCHANTED DIVER
(718) 470-6858
259-19 Hillside Ave., Floral Park, NY 11004
The complete scuba facility, PADI

THE SCUBA SHOPPE
(516) 286-5552
1870-C Rt. 112, Medford, NY 11763
Full service facility, PADI

UNDERWATER ADVISORS, INC.
(516) 796-6560
26 Wolcott Road, Levittown, NY 11756
PADI, NAUI, instruction, dive, travel, sales

UNDERWATER WORLD
(716) 569-5509
RD 5, Riverside Rd., Jamestown, NY 14701
Full service dive store, YMCA

NORTH CAROLINA

BILL'S SCUBA, INC.
(919) 847-6169
7323 Six Forks Road, Raleigh, NC 27615
YMCA, NAUI, full service, facility

BLUE DOLPHIN DIVE CENTER
(919) 760-9226
3010 S. Stratford, W. Salem, NC 27103
PADI 5-star fac, IDC instr dev ctr, sales, travel

CRYSTAL COAST DIVING ADV.
(919) 347-DIVE/(800) 843-4834
713 New Bridge St., Jacksonville, NC 28540
PADI 5-star training fac, instr. devel. ctr

DISCOVERY DIVING CO., INC.
(919) SCUBA-OK (728-2265)
414 Orange St, Beaufort, NC 28516
PADI 5-star, 7 chart. boats, full svc., 2 lodges

N.C. SCUBA
(919) 276-9302
Rt. 7, Box 380, Laurinburg, NC 28352
PADI, Full service facility, local and int'l travel

NEW WAVE DIVE & TRAVEL
(919) 659-9500
Centre Stage Shopping Center
333 Jonestown Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27104
Sales, service, travel, PADI training, rentals

RUM RUNNER DIVE SHOP
(919) 758-1444
2905 E. Fifth, Greenville, NC 27834
Scubapro, instruction, charters, NAUI, PADI

SCUBA SOUTH DIVING COMPANY
(919) 457-5201
222 S. River Dr., Southport, NC 28461
Full service, charter wreck diving, NAUI

THE DIVE SHOP
(704) 459-7440/(800) 848-3467
PO Box 877, Claremont, NC 28610
Instructions, sales, service, trips, PADI

NORTH DAKOTA

DAKOTA DIVERS
(701) 852-8644
408 20th Avenue SW, Minot, ND 58701
Full service, SSI facility

OHIO

AQUA HUT
(419) 476-3100
5030 Bennett, Toledo, OH 43612
Slis, trps, mntls, instr., SSI, NAUI, PADI

AQUA SPECIALISTS, INC.
(216) 521-4855/(216) 521-4858 FAX
14813 Madison Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107-4009
Lake Erie wreck dives, Full svc fac, travel
PADI, NAUI Pro facility

BUCKEYE DIVING SCHOOL
(216) 439-3677
46 Warrensville Cntr Rd., Bedford, OH 44146
SSI Instr., trng fac. PADI, full svc, travel, sales

C & J SCUBA SUPPLY
(513) 890-6900
5825 N. Dixie Dr., Dayton, OH 45414
PADI, full service dive shop

CINCINNATI DIVING CENTER
(513) 521-3483
8412 Winton Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45231
Sales, svc, rental, travel, instr, PADI, NASDS

D & M SPORT DIVING
(216) 784-1414
1473 Canton Rd., Akron, OH 44312
Instruction, air fills, rentals, sales, PADI

DIVER'S PORT O'CALL, INC.
(216) 473-4837
5418 Mayfield Rd., Lyndhurst, OH 44124
Sales, service, training, PADI

J.R.S. SCHOOL OF SCUBA
(216) 325-2233
3934 Sanford Rd., Rootstown, OH 44272
Sales, service, mntls, air, trips, YMCA, PADI

LONG LAKE SCUBA, INC.
(800) 289-3040
14245 Kolter Rd, Spencerville, OH 45887
Lessons, sales, mntls, svc, PADI, SSI, HSA

PORTAGE QUARRY DIVE SHOP
(419) 352-9203/(419) 352-8488
12701 S. Dixie Hwy, Bowling Green, OH 43402
PADI, PDIC, CMAS, Instr. check-outs, full svc

SCUBA WEST INC.
(216) 476-3483
17025 Lorain Ave., Cleveland, OH 44111
NASDS: Inst. trng fac; Lake Erie: wrecks: full service

SUB-AQUATICS, INC.
(614) 864-1235
8855 E. Broad St., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Full svc fac, PADI 5-star, IDC ctr, Ohio's most
prestigious scuba diving & snow skiing fac

THE UNDERWATER CONNECTION
(614) 487-9777
1607 W 5th Ave., Columbus, OH 43212
Yr. round Instr., trips, Auth. Beuchat Dealer
PADI 5-star Facility

OKLAHOMA

DIVE SITE
(918) 664-5717
4405 S. Sheridan, Tulsa, OK 74145
SSI Trng Cnt, thru instr. level, full svc, sales, travel

SEAHORSE SCUBA, INC.
(918) 627-3607
2607 S. Memorial, Tulsa, OK 74129
PADI, NAUI, "The Fun Guys!"

OREGON

ADVENTURE DIVING

(503) 779-1162
2590 Crater Lake Hwy., Medford, OR 97501
Quality instruction

AQUATIC SPORTS

(503) 245-4991
10803 SW Barbur Blvd., Portland, OR 97219
NASDS instr., indoor htd pool, dive tours, equip system specialists

EUGENE SKIN DIVERS SUPPLY

(503) 342-2351
1090 W. 6th Ave., Eugene, OR 97402
Full service facility, PADI

REESE'S DIVE SHOP

(503) 535-2223
208 N. Main St., Phoenix, OR 97535
Since 1959

SALEM SCUBA & TRAVEL INC.

(503) 588-DIVE
1170 Vista SE, Salem, OR 97302
PADI 5-star training facility,
all spec., Blake A. Fry, President

STEVE'S SCUBA CENTER

(503) 656-1956
19230 McLoughlin Blvd., Gladstone, Or. 97027
NAUI Pro Facility,
PADI Instructor, Steve Lowe; sales, service, air

STREED'S SCUBA

(503) 777-3347
8450 S.E. 82nd, Portland, OR 97266
Full service dive store, PADI

UNDER WATER WORKS, INC.

(503) 620-6993
12170 SW Main, Tigard, OR 97223
PADI 5-star training facility

PENNSYLVANIA

AAQUA-TECH DIVE CENTER

(215) 642-DIVE
51 Rittenhouse Pl., Ardmore, PA 19003
PADI, NAUI, Full service facility, trips

ANCHOR LINE SCUBA & DIVE SHOP

(215) 566-2330
1032 N. Providence Rd., Media, PA 19063
Sales, service, trips, NAUI, YMCA, CMAS

AQUATIC ADVENTURES, INC.

(412) 788-4511
5992-B Steubenville Pk.,
Robinson Township, PA 15136 NAUI

BAINBRIDGE SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

(717) 426-2114
RD#1, Box 23-1, Bainbridge, PA 17502
Scubapro dlr., 27 acre on-site diving, PADI

BLUE FIN DIVE SHOP

(215) 494-4787
239 Concord Rd., Aston, PA 19014
Sport, commercial, full line shop; NAUI NASE

DUDAS' DIVING DUDS

(215) 436-0176
101 Bartram Lane, West Chester, PA 19382
Full line NAUI fac, Scubapro franchise dealer,
over 100 manufacturers represented, NAUI

MID ATLANTIC SCUBA CENTER

(215) 245-0141
3600 Old Street Rd, Bensalem, PA 19020
We practice "safe selling" with MASE double
guarantee.

NORTH SHORE MARINE

(215) 324-0344
4232 Rising Sun Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19140
Sales, service, rentals, instruction, trips, NAUI

PISCES DIVERS, INC.

(717) 253-0552
313 Park St., Honesdale, PA 18431
SSI Instr. Training Facility

REGEC'S DIVING UNLIMITED

(814) 375-1069
490 Treasure Lake, DuBois, PA 15801
Full PADI Certification courses

SCUBA SOUTH

(412) 343-3393
3021 Banksville Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15216
Sales, instruction, rental, service, travel, NAUI

SCUBA TANK

(215) 868-7373
4102 Bath Pike, Bethlehem, PA 18017
PADI, Dutch Springs

SMILEY'S SCUBA SHOP

(412) 935-6667
12985 Perry Hwy., Wexford, PA 15090
Full Service, NAUI, PADI

SUNKEN TREASURE DIVE SHOP

(717) 398-1458
RR4 Box 389-14, Jersey Shore, PA 17740
PADI 5-star fac, SIs, svc, retail, dive travel

UNDERWATER WORLD, INC.

(215) 672-4180
495 Easton Rd., Horsham, PA 19044
Instruction, travel, repairs, NAUI, YMCA

RHODE ISLAND

AQUIDNECK ISLAND DIVING, INC.

(401) 847-9293
550 Thames St., Newport, RI 02840
NAUI/PADI, charters, full-service facility

OCEAN STATE SCUBA

(401) 423-1662/(800) 933-DIVE
23A Narragansett Ave., Jamestown, RI 02835
PADI wkend adv. classes; dive chtrs, specialties

SOUTH CAROLINA

AQUA VENTURES

(803) 884-1500
426 Coleman Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464
river & offshore chtrs, full line Dacor dealer
PADI

CHARLESTON SCUBA

(803) 722-1120
35 Lockwood Drive, Charleston, SC 29401
28' Delta, offshore and river fossil dives, PADI

HURRICANE SCUBA CHARTERS

(803) 249-3571/(800) 828-7189
Veeran's Marina, Hwy 17 & 11th Ave. N.
N. Myrtle Beach, SC 29597
Full svc charters, PADI instruction, dive travel,
sales, rentals, service

ISLAND SCUBA INC.

(800) 237-1317/(803) 237-1317
Pawleys Station, Pawleys Island, SC 29585
Full svc, PADI Dive Center, Dive trips avail.

SCUBA SYNDROME

(803) 626-3483/(800) 647-DIVE
2718 Hwy 501, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
Full service, PADI dive center, daily charters

TENNESSEE

ADVENTURE STORE

(615) 859-1400
2112 N. Gallatin Pike, Madison, TN 37115
NAUI, SSI, Dive mast. & instructor training

ADVENTURE SWIM & SCUBA

(615) 690-DIVE
7664 Northshore Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919
Noris Lake Dive Trips, PADI

AMERICAN SCUBA CENTER

(615) 371-0000
142 Pewitt Drive, Brentwood, TN 37027
Instr., commercial equipment sales, SSI

DIVE SHOP

(901) 324-0267
3149 Poplar, Memphis, TN 38111
NASDS, Full service facility

DOWDLE SPORTING GOODS

(901) 767-1505
5100-12 Park Ave., Memphis, TN 38117
Full service scuba store, PA

NEPTUNE DIVING AND SKI CO., INC.

(615) 383-8565
2610 Franklin Rd, Nashville, TN 37204
NASE, YMCA

RHEA'S DIVING SERVICES, INC.

(615) 977-0360
309 Whitecrest Dr., Maryville, TN 37801
NAUI Pro facility, YMCA, PADI, NACD,
NSS-CDS, specializing in cavern & cave trng

RIDGE SCUBA CENTER

(615) 483-DIVE
270 Midway Rd., Oak Ridge, TN 37830
PADI, NAUI, YMCA, full service facility

SCUBA SOUTH, INC.

(615) 244-6775
132 13th Ave N, Nashville, TN 37203
Retail, instruction, travel, PADI

SMOKY MOUNTAIN DIVERS

(615) 475-4334
PO Box 309, Jefferson City, TN 37760
SIs, mtls, trips, salvage, class instr, NAUI, PADI

TEXAS

AMERICAN DIVING

(512) 943-7124/(512) 761-2030
215 Highway 100 # 101, Port Isabel, TX 78578
Full service dive shop, charter service, NAUI

ATHENS SCUBA PARK

(903) 675-5762
601 N. Wofford, Athens, TX 75751
Dive resort-(clearest water around)
over 20 sunken wrecks

DIVE MASTERS OF SAN ANTONIO

(512) 344-5057
9403 San Pedro, San Antonio, TX 78216
Full svc fac, travel, instr. training, SSI, PADI

DIVE WORLD

(512) 340-3721
8507 N McCullough, San Antonio, TX 78216
Full Service, travel, indoor pool, PADI 5-star

DIVER'S DEPOT

(800) 275-3535/(409) 564-3483
720 South St., Nacogdoches, TX 75961
PADI 5-star, IDC, over 30 IDC's each year

DUGGAN DIVING ENT.

(512) 658-7495
928 Coronado Blvd., Universal City, TX 78148
NAUI, PADI, 12 specialties, trav, u/w vid, trng.

ISLAND SEA SPORTS

(512) 749-4167
736 Tarpon St., Port Aransas, TX 78373
Full svc fac, US Diver, Sherwood, Chtrs, PADI

LONE STAR DIVERS

(713) 479-0210
801 Spencer Hwy, Deer Park, TX 77536

OCEAN'S WINDOW SCUBA

TRAINING CENTER
(214) 423-DIVE
2301 N. Central Expwy, #140, Plano, TX 75075
Full service PADI facility

PRO SCUBA CENTER

(214) 593-6254
341 S. Bonner, Tyler, TX 75702
YMCA, CMAS, full service dive shop

SCHOOL OF SCUBA

(915) 673-2949
942 Walnut St., Abilene, TX 79601
Full service facility, PADI, NASDS

SCUBA CENTER AQUATICS

(713) 896-8045
13114 Chimney Sweep, Houston, TX 77041
PADI specialties, travel, Cayman

SCUBA SCHOOLS OF FORT WORTH

(817) 732-5761
3807 Southwest Blvd., Ft. Worth, TX 76116

SCUBATEC

(409) 637-1797
406 S. Medford, Loop 287E, Lufkin, TX 75901
Full service facility, PADI, 12 specialties

SKI-N-SEA

(817) 776-3388
6001 W. Waco Dr., #614, Waco, TX 76710
PADI, NAUI, Texas gulf diving

STOVAL'S DIVE SHOP

(915) 699-5959
3325 W. Wadley A-2, Midland, TX 79707
Safe diving since 1954, PADI 5-star training fac

TRIDENT DIVING

(512) 734-7442
2110 West Ave, San Antonio, TX 78201

UTAH

NEPTUNE DIVERS

(801) 466-9630
2445 S. 900 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84106
Sales, mtls, trips, indoor pool, instr., cert.

THUNDER ISLAND DIVERS

(801) 776-6316/(801) 776-6318 FAX
3385 Harrison Blvd., Ogden, UT 84405
PADI, IDC; regular trips

WATER WORLD DIVERS

(801) 224-8181
1546 S. State St., Orem, UT 84058
We sell fun!

VERMONT

WATERFRONT DIVING CENTER

(802) 865-2771
214 Battery St., Burlington, VT 05401
Rental, charters, trips, service, NAUI

VIRGINIA

AMERICAN WATER SPORTS OF VA.

(703) 534-3636
6182 Arlington Blvd., Falls Church, VA 22044
PADI, NAUI, SSI, All mjr brands, trips, rental

CHESAPEAKE DIVING CENTER

(804) 838-2218
1815 W. Queen St., Hampton, VA 23666
1st PADI 5-star Instructor Dev. Ctr in VA

DIVERS CORNER

(703) 639-6478
1530 1st St. Radford, VA 24141
PADI

DIVING ENTERPRISES, LTD.

(703) 989-1555
4040D Franklin Road, Roanoke, VA 24014
PADI

LYNNHAVEN DIVE CENTER

(804) 481-7949
1413 N. Great Neck Rd.,
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
Pool on premises, local and exotic dive charters,
liveboard dive boat. Tidewater's largest full
service shop. Open daily! NAUI, PADI, SSI

RUDEE INLET DIVE CENTER

(804) 425-2997
1091 Norfolk Ave. #107,
Virginia Beach, VA 23451
Boat trips, rentals, vacation pkgs., NAUI cert.

DIVE STORE DIRECTORY

SKI & DIVE

(703) 263-0427
4425 Brookfield Corp. Dr., Chantilly, VA 22021
PADI 5-star, trng fac, travel, sales, svc, pool

THE DIVE SHOP

(804) 353-1888
1707 Commonwealth Ave.,
Richmond, VA 23221
Full service training facility, PADI

"THE" DIVE SHOP

(703) 698-7220/(703) 641-9345 FAX
3013 Nutley St., Fairfax, VA 22031
Serving D.C. area., travel, training, sales PADI

WASHINGTON

DOLPHIN TOO

(206) 892-1633
3021 NE 72nd Ave., #47, Vancouver, WA 98661
Full service dive shop, NAUI pro facility

SOUND DIVE CENTER, INC.

(206) 373-6141
990 Sylvan Way, Bremerton, WA 98310
NAUI and PADI certifications

THUNDER REEF DIVERS, INC.

(206) 573-8507
12104 N.E. Hwy. 99, Vancouver, WA 98686

WASHINGTON DC

NATIONAL DIVING CENTER

(202) 363-6123
4932 Wisconsin Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20016
Charters (MD & VA), equipment sales, service,
training for NAUI & PADI certification

WEST VIRGINIA

HUNTINGTON SPORT AND COMMERCIAL DIVE CENTER

(304) 529-6622
3234 Woodland Drive, Huntington, WV 25705
Ask for Charlie! PADI, YMCA, MDEA

INTERSTATE AQUATICS

(304) 599-4231
3529 University Ave., Morgantown, WV 26505
Full service PADI dive center

MOUNTAINEER II DIVE SHOP

(304) 768-7753
505 Dunbar, Dunbar, WV 25064
PADI full service 5-star facility

WISCONSIN

BENNETT ACADEMY OF SKI

(414) 258-6440
6509 W. North Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213

DIVEPOINT SCUBA CENTER

(715) 344-3483
632 Isadore St. Stevens Point, WI 54481
PADI Training facility, charters, full service

DIVE USA

(414) 242-DIVE
134 S. Main St., Thiensville, WI 53092
PADI, full svc facility, charters, Int'l travel

DIVERS' DELIGHT

(414) 334-6057
1322 Main St., West Bend, WI 53095
Lake MI & SUP wreck dives, full service, PADI

ERVINS SKIN DIVER SHOP

(414) 425-6924
10751 West Parnell Avenue
Hales Corner, WI 53130
PADI & NAUI, 33rd year in business

FONTANA OUTDOOR SPORTS

(414) 225-2220
Hwy 67, Box 350, Fontana, WI 53125
PADI trng fac, US Diver, Dacor & Scubapro

KLEIN SCUBA

(715) 675-6722
1414 Campus Drive, Wausau, WI 54401
PADI Dive Center

INTERNATIONAL DIVE STORES

ARUBA

ARUBA SCUBA CENTER

(011) 2978-21596
A De Musset Str., #1, Oranjestad, Aruba
We specialize in small, private parties, NAUI

MERMAID SPORT DIVERS INC.

(011) 2978-35546
L.G. Smith Blvd. #55
Manchebo Beach Hotel, Aruba
Free Introductory Scuba Course

BAHAMAS

BAHAMA DIVERS, LTD.

(809) 393-5644/(809) 393-1466 FAX
P.O. Box 5004, Nassau, Bahamas
Deep wrecks, blue holes, full PADI facility,
pkgs. available

DIVE DIVE DIVE LTD.

(800) 368-3483/(809) 362-1143
P.O. Box N-8050, Nassau, Bahamas
Tongue of Ocean Walls, Wrecks, Reefs, &
Shark Dives, PADI Facility, Pick-up from all
hotels, complete packages

NASSAU UNDERSEA ADVENTURES

(800) 468-9876/(305) 359-3066
in Nassau (809) 362-4171
Gateway to the exciting James Bond movie sites
& drop off to the Tongue of the ocean. Pkgs.
avail. 4 days/3 nts. from \$199.

VALENTINE'S DIVE CENTER

(800) 383-6480/(502) 897-6481 U.S.
P.O. Box 1, Harbour Island, Bahamas
AM/PM & night dives. All levels of instr.
Rnls./U/W Photo. & Video, Indiv. & Grp pkgs.

BELIZE

BLACKLINE DIVE SHOP

011 (501) 24-4155/011 (501) 23-1975 FAX
P.O. Box 332, Belize City, Bel, Cntrl. America
NAUI, daytrips to Bar. Reef, cayses & atolls.

MANTA RESORT AT GLOVER'S REEF

(800) 342-0053/011 (501) 23-2767
Where your first adventure begins. Unlimited,
virgin, atoll diving! Small, private, romantic
island. A True Escape.

MATA ROCKS RESORT

(800) 288-8646
Peaceful, beach front, on Ambergris Caye, Secl.,
intimate, unspoiled.

ST. GEORGE'S LODGE

(800) 678-6871 U.S./011 (501) 24-4190 Belize
"Excellent food & accommodations," *Undercurrent* '89, certifications, prof. guided diving

BONAIRE

BLACK DURGON INN BONAIRE

(800) 526-2370/(201) 566-8866 NJ
US Office: P.O. Box 775, Morgan, NJ 08879
Small seaside resort, apts. excellent snorkeling,
diving int. pkg.

B. V. I.

DIVE BVI LTD.

(800) 848-7078
Box 8309 Cruz Bay, St. John, USVI 00831
PADI 5-star, 3 locations, 4 custom dive boats,
small group business our specialty

RAINBOW VISIONS PHOTOGRAPHY

(809) 494-2749
P.O. Box 680, Roadtown, Tortola, BVI
Photo/Video - Rnls. sales, instr. processing
PADI photo courses

CANADA

ANDERSON AQUATICS

(403) 328-5040
314 11 St. S., Lethbridge, AB, Canada T1J2N8
Full service, travel, classes, NAUI

CEA-CANUCKS

(416) 385-3064
1107 Ferrell Ave. East Hamilton
Ontario, Canada

DIVER DOWN

(416) 787-0264
1182 Eglinton Avenue West
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M6C 2E3
Great Lake Charters, Full service

FLOAT 'N' FLAG

(416) 333-DIVE/(416) 637-3483 FAX
564 Plains Road East
Burlington, Ontario, Canada L7T2E5
U/W photo/video specialists

PSD UNDER-WATER-SPORTS

(604) 386-3483
2519 Douglas St., Victoria
B.C., Canada V8T 4L9
PADI 5-star IDC, full lines, charters, rentals

CAYMAN IS.

JEFF'S GUESTHOUSE/SCUBA SAFARI

(809) 949-3742
P.O. Box 2029, Grand Cayman, BWI
Private diving instr., photo, video, deck, BBQ,
AC, maid, bikes

COSTA RICA

CONDOVAC LA COSTA-VIRGIN

DIVING
(506) 67-0472
P.O. Box 181-5019, Playa del CoCo
Trips, Rentals, Courses

DIVING SAFARIS

(800) 328-5285/011 (506) 67-0012
PADI instr., equip. rental, referrals, photo trips,
resort El Ocotal

FIJI

MATAGI ISLAND RESORT /

LIVABOARD
(800) 3-MATAGI
(800) DIVE-MATAGI (Canada)
Small, intimate, privately owned Island, also
offering live-aboard dive boat.

INDONESIA

BALI MARINE SPORTS

062-361-87872 FAX
Jalan By Pass Ngurah Rai, Blanjong, Sanur,
Kauh, Denpasar, Bali, Indonesia
PADI Instr., daily trips, equip. sales, land tours

JAMAICA

NEGRIL SCUBA CENTRE

(809) 957-4425
PO Box 49, Negril, maica
Resort courses, dive/hotel pkgs, u/w camera
rental, night dives, PADI, NAUI, YMCA

MEXICO

BAJA EXPEDITIONS

(800) 843-6967/(619) 581-3311/581-6542 FAX
2625 Garnet Ave., San Diego, CA 92109
Dive the Sea of Cortez, 7 & 10 day expeditions

VILLA CARIBE AZULES

(313) 582-3100/(313) 582-4848 FAX
House rental w/pool. AC, maid, cook.
Dive pkgs., private PADI cert./referrals

PANAMA

SCUBA PANAMA

(507) 61-3841
Box 666, Balboa, Republic of Panama, C.A.
NAUI, PADI, CMAS, SSI, LA County

PUERTO RICO

CARIBBEAN MARINE SERVICES

(809) 742-3555/(809) 742-0036 FAX
PO Box 467, Culebro, PR 00645
Live-aboard trimaran, NAUI, PADI

CORAL HEAD DIVERS

(800) 635-4529/(809) 850-7208
PO Box CUHF, Humacao, PR 00792
NAUI Pro facility, PADI Instr. Daily boat dives

MARINE SPORTS & DIVE SHOP

(809) 844-6175
23 Munoz Riviera, Ponce, PR 00731
PADI, IDEA, NASE, Full Dive Facility, trips

OCEAN SPORTS

(809) 268-2329
77 Isla Verde Ave., Isla Verde, P.R. 00913
Full svc, store, dive & snorkel trips every day,
PDIC, NAUI, YMCA, CMAS

SIPADAN

PULAU SIPADAN RESORT SDN BHD

089-765200/089-763575 FAX as for Mrs. Lee
484 Block P, Bandar Sabindo, P.O. Box 290,
91007 Tawau, Sabah, Malaysia

THAILAND

FANTASEA DIVERS

(6676) 340088
93/58 Tawcewong Rd. Patong Beach Phuket,
Thailand 83150
PADI 5-star Dive Center

U.S.V.I.

LOW KEY WATERSPORTS

(809) 776-7048
P.O. Box 431, St. John, U.S.V.I. 00831
PADI 5-star Trng. Facility, diving for beginners
to experts

SEAHORSE DIVE SHOP

(809) 774-2001
#505 Crown Bay Marina, Sub Base, St. Thomas,
VI 00802
St. Thomas, VI 00802
PADI full service, beg. to adv., boat dives avail.

V.I. DIVERS, LTD.

(809) 773-6045/(800) 544-5911
Pan Am Pavilion
Christiansted, St. Croix, USVI 00820
PADI 5-star, Daily Boat & Beach Dives

WEST INDIES

ANSE CHASTANET HOTEL/SCUBA ST.

LUCIA
(800) 328-5285/(809) 454-7000/(809) 454-7700
FAX
Box 7000, Soufriere, St. Lucia, West Indies
PADI 5-star dive ctr., beach, boat, wall, cave, nt
dvg, dv pkgs

THE DIVE SHOP LIMITED

(809) 426-9947/(809) 426-2031 FAX
P.O. Box 44-B, St. Michael, Barbados, W.I.
NAUI, Cert Referrals, Dive Pkgs.

Man and Moray

Eels are beautiful people, no matter where you encounter them. Except of course, in Hollywood. Hollywood eels eat divers. Remember the green plastic monster that obligingly eliminated the bad guy in *The Deep*? Let's face it. In terms of defining animal behavior, movies have a lot of audacity. Flesh and blood eels, even eight-foot morays, simply don't eat people.

front of the snout, and the other set above the eyes. Very strong muscles control the moray's lower jaw, and thus this animal is known for its tenacity in holding on to its prey.

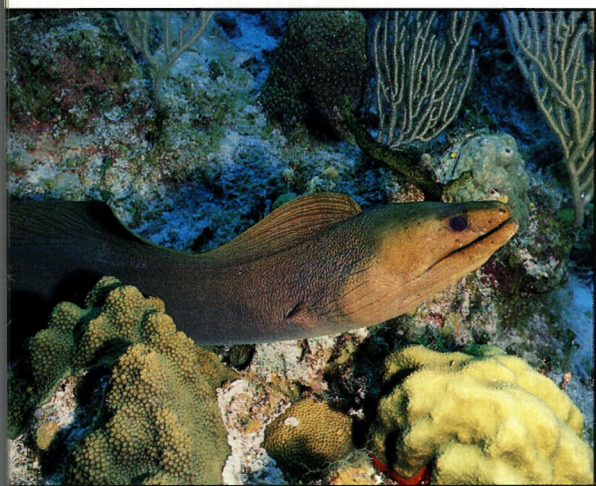
Most eels, on first encounter, are shy. By day, they retreat into the corals, only their heads emerging, mouths opening and closing rhythmically to reveal rows of finely chiselled teeth. This is anything but a threatening gesture. The eel is simply breathing by "inhaling" water, passing it over its gills to remove oxygen. The water exits through two large holes located on either side of the head.

At the first sign of a diver, an eel will usually withdraw deeper into the reef. But other eels may stay put and even behave in a friendly manner, particularly those used to being fed by human visitors. Divers towing a speared fish behind them sometimes lose their catch to hungry eels.

from an eel, lest I arouse his basic fishy instinct to grab. Had I pushed my luck too far? Were my fingers about to be shredded? They did look a lot like the baitfish that Wilmer and friends so gladly accept as routine handouts!

I had, of course, underrated Wilmer's inherent wisdom (my fingers probably didn't smell right). He paused (I could almost hear him say, "Oops, pardon me!") and his jaws opened apologetically, having done no harm whatsoever. That day, my faith in the basic good intentions of morays was irrevocably confirmed.

The happiest moments of many divers' lives underwater are spent in these unique encounter sessions with morays. We touch, we pirouette. Man and moray are eye to eye. We speak a silent language. Here in the sunlit coral afternoon, entwined, we are a bizarre embrace between two worlds.



Left: Under strobe light the so-called green moray takes on a brownish cast, but as seen by the diver they are a bright green.



Right: Spots before your eyes when diving in shallow Caribbean water often means you are nose to nose with a spotted moray.



I've never met an eel I didn't like. There are two distinct personality types among these fascinating animals: eels are either quite shy or very friendly. The latter develop their ambience with humans over a period of time and a long list of free meals.

Morays inhabit all tropical oceans of the world. The Caribbean's most prominent eels, those most noticed by divers, are the spotted and green morays. The largest, the greens, may reach seven feet in length, while the spotted species measures less than four feet. Lacking scales, eel skin is thick and leathery, surprisingly silken to the touch.

Eels have two sets of nostrils: one set resembling tiny tubes protruding from the

But that's the natural law of the sea, if you're a reef creature, you get it where you can find it, and you don't say "Please."

Those who have consorted with morays will testify that these gentle monsters don't seem to have much appetite for human flesh. One day I had just finished feeding my friend Wilmer, and was stroking his face, which he seems to relish. Distracted by an inquisitive grouper, I glanced away for a mere second. When I turned back to Wilmer, I saw with some dismay that my fingers were inside his mouth and two rows of needle-sharp teeth were starting to close down.

I froze and braced myself. I'd been told never, never to jerk my hand away

What binds us? What draws you to me? Only the raw fish in the plastic bag? Or is there more? (Allow me my illusions, please.) I know well what draws me to you: a tantalizing glimpse of strange mysteries far beyond my grasp, for I am chained by my bubbles, forever, to the shore.

So I'll go on making friends with every eel I encounter, sneering behind my facemask at movie moguls hungry for box office hits so unfairly depicting my silken friends as fiends. And I'll grumble silently when asked: "Aren't you afraid of all those man-eaters living underwater?"

What I fear most is the ignorance that underlies the question. ■

—Nancy Sefton

A Bullhead Mystery

Fog drifted across the motionless water of Big Fish Lake, stealing its way through the branches of weeping willows along the shoreline. Huddled there silently under the trees, the divers waited for my signal to enter the water and begin the night dive.

"Kind of spooky out here in the dark," a voice said.

"Nah," I answered with typical instructor bravado. "Same old dive site we've all dove a hundred times. Just darker."

"Gives me the creeps," said the voice.

I peered at them, trying to identify the dissenter, but in rented wetsuits and hoods they all looked alike.

"Turn your lights on," I said, hoping that would reassure them. "Point 'em down so they don't shine in anyone's eyes."

A dozen beams of light cut into the fog, flashing up, down, around in circles and in my eyes.

"That's fine," I said. "Let's move to the water's edge. Stay with your buddies."

I went first, leading the way down a small embankment to the water. They followed. Their lights jiggling violently in the fog, like frightened fireflies.

This was their first night dive, and like mankind down through the ages, they feared the unknown. They feared



the foggy dark night that shrouded the gay lights of lake homes and bustling resorts around the lake. They feared the blackness of the placid water and the mysteries which lay beneath it, waiting. Yet, cautiously, they followed me farther and farther into the water until we stood waist deep.

They formed a tight semi-circle around me. Silent.

"This is going to be fun," I promised the row of blank faces. "A great many



things come out at night that you never see during the day."

"Oh, choice," a voice responded.

"I didn't mean it that way," I said. "This lake is loaded with game fish. Northern, walleye, sunfish, bass and some carp that must go 20 pounds."

"Nice to know we're not alone out here," a woman said.

"Just remember the safety rules," I continued. "Stay with your buddy. Surface if separated. And set your compasses to 315 degrees, which will take you directly to the ferryboat at 22 feet. Everyone ready?"

I led them slowly above the weeds and beyond to the waiting depths. I knew the way, but paused repeatedly to consult my compass. I did this so the students could use me as an example for proper navigation. But they ignored me, preferring instead to shine their lights in each other's eyes, clear their masks, over-inflate their BCs or swim in circles.

Moving deeper, I welcomed the cool water into my wetsuit with a sense of relief. The shallows had been warmer than expected, and I was uncomfortable in the hooded suit.

On the faint luminous dial of my depth gauge, the needle edged past 20 feet, and I swept my light ahead to pick up the bow of the sunken ferryboat. The mixing of warm and cold water here at the thermocline gave the water an oily appearance. I was almost on top of the boat before I

saw it, and had to put out my hand to avoid a collision.

I drifted to the bottom and knelt there, careful not to stir up the fine silt that covered the rocks like dust. In the distance I could just make out the glow of many dive lights approaching slowly. It was an eerie sight, there alone.

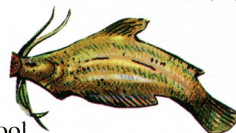
But I wasn't alone. Something touched me, then wormed its way along my neck. A snake! But, of course, there are no water snakes in Minnesota. I froze. It moved down, along my shoulder. I gasped. It dug into my arm with a numbing pain. I jerked around to face my attacker, and looked into the mask of a terrified student. His hand dropped from my arm. The wild look in my eyes must have frightened him further, because he quickly backed off several feet. Then stopped, and held up his dead flashlight.

After that, I kept a close count and made sure none of them got behind me. When they had exhausted approximately half their air, we reversed our compass course and started back toward shore. The trip was uneventful, and I could tell from their expressions when we surfaced, that some were even enjoying themselves.

"Some of us have quite a bit of air left," one of them said. "Can we swim around here for awhile? Just in the shallows?"

"Sure," I said.

In a moment, I was alone again.



The air was cool and damp. I partially unzipped my wetsuit jacket and tucked my gloves inside. But once again I had the feeling of not being alone.

Something touched my ankle. There, at my feet, were several bullhead catfish, gumming their way around my ankles. Their mouths working against the rubber, like a sucking calf. Not painful, but not pleasant either.

Every living creature has its place in the grand ecological scheme, and the bullhead is no exception. But only God knows why they're so ugly. Unlike other fish, which are mostly tail and torso, the bullhead is mostly head. A head that is flat and wide, adorned with thick lips, long black whiskers and dull stupid eyes. Instead of scales, the bullhead has a tough hide with a yellow underbelly. While most fish swim gracefully, the bullhead moves through the water with a lethargic waddle.

I was in no danger. No jagged sharp teeth were piercing my wetsuit. Nevertheless, the sensation of their mouths

(Continued on page 78)

AZURE THING



CALL
NOW AND
SAVE OVER 40%

Almost
100,000 divers
rely on Scuba
Times to keep them
on the cutting edge of
the diving world.

Each issue includes the latest in dive travel, equipment updates, u/w photo tips, advanced diving information and a host of other inspiring topics.

For 13 years, Scuba Times magazine has delivered accurate, reliable articles and spectacular photography from the world's best shooters. You can have this powerful bundle delivered directly to your mailbox for the cost of a couple of air fills. Call today and **save over 40%** off the regular price.

One-year (6 issues)	\$11.95 (save \$5.75)
Two-years (12 issues)	\$19.95 (save \$15.45)
Three-years (18 issues)	\$27.95 (save \$25.15)

Call Now and Save!



TOLL FREE SUBSCRIPTION HOTLINE
1-800-950-7282

SCUBA
TIMES
THE ACTIVE DIVER'S MAGAZINE

the Nimrod III

DIVE AUSTRALIA'S COD HOLE

from
\$765*

per person/four nights



Get a flying start to the Cod Hole from Cairns. Two scheduled departures weekly from Lizard Island or Cooktown. Then spend four days diving the Cod Hole and the Ribbon Reefs for the greatest Barrier Reef experience aboard! You will dive from one of the finest equipped dive vessels operating in Australia.

** Quoted per passenger in a 2-berth state-room. Quadruple occupancy also available. Price may vary due to rate of exchange.*

 **Sea Safaris**

800/821-6670 (U.S. & Canada)

800/262-6670 (CA)

or **310/546-2464**

TROPICAL ADVENTURES
— TRAVEL —

800-247-3483

111 Second North • Seattle, WA 98109

WA (206) 441-3483

FAX (213) 441-5431

FREE FLOWING

(Continued from page 76)

tirelessly working against my body touched some deep primal fear, and I could think of nothing but escape.

"They're everywhere, aren't they?" a voice said close to my ear.

I looked up to see one of the divers standing beside me.

"They're harmless," I said, as much to reassure myself as him.

"Let's get out of here," a woman begged. I could hear the panic in her voice.

We stood there in four feet of water watching as dozens of bullheads waddled around us unafraid, sucking at our limbs and anything else that dangled in the water.



Suddenly from the corner of my eye, I caught a flash of steel. In one decisive stroke like a guillotine the blade cut through the air and crashed into the water. An instant later a bullhead lost his head. Too stupid to know what had befallen him, the head swam lazily away without the body, dragging an assortment of bloody entrails.

Several of the more squeamish divers gasped, then someone shouted, "Look! They're gone!"

Only the fog remained, creeping across the water as before and coating us with a chill mist. I listened to an unseen wind moaning across the dark sky.

"Let's pack up," I said. "And don't forget to wash off your equipment before you store it in the truck."

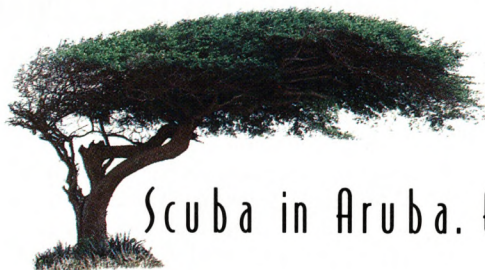
No one complained, and within minutes we were all stripped to our bathing suits and back in the water rinsing the equipment. It was then that it happened.

"Look there," a man pointed.

The severed head came swimming as before, searching for its body. The eyes were open, unblinking, and it moved with the same waddle as if its tiny brain had yet to realize there were no fins or tail to propel it.

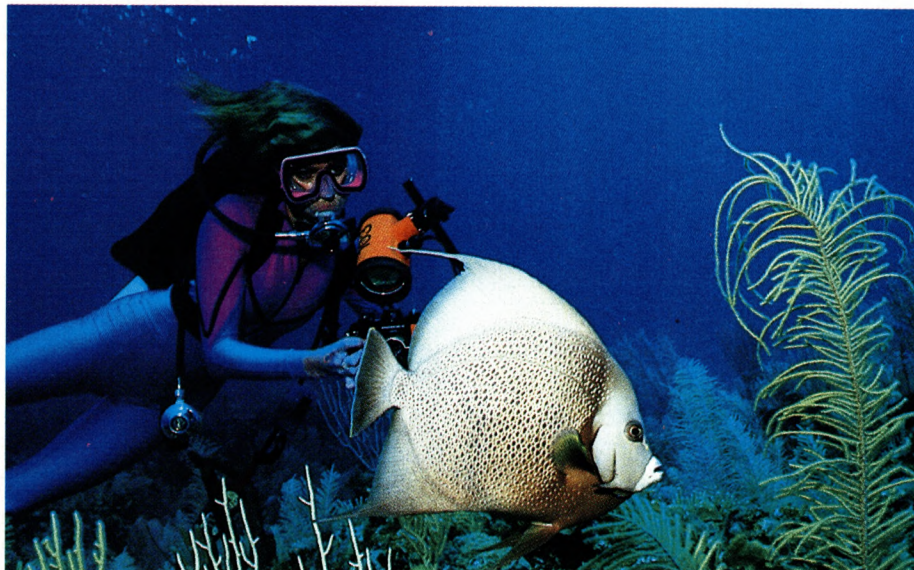
We reached dry land in less than a heartbeat. Fully dressed, I stood at the water's edge staring out into the gray mist. No doubt some unknown current had carried the head along. I turned up the collar on my windbreaker. Not a ripple could be seen on the dark water. I chuckled to myself. How foolish we are sometimes when we let our imaginations overcome our good judgement. ■

—James Olsen



Scuba in Aruba. Explore the depths of your imagination.

© 1992 Aruba Tourism Authority



Dive into our turquoise seas
and discover Aruba's
underwater wonders.

Imagine a multitude of
virgin reefs, choice dive
sites, and drop-offs for
divers of all levels.
And nowhere in all the
Caribbean will you find
more underwater wrecks
to explore.

Interested? See your
travel agent or call
1-800-TO-ARUBA.



PADI DIVE CENTER
TEL./FAX:
011-2978-60096

LET US TANK YOU UP!

- Guided dives on all reefs & wrecks
- 40' dive boat
- Equipment & camera rental
- Dive/hotel packages



TEL: (800) 345-2782 or
(305) 427-5488
FAX: (305) 427-7481



(011) 2978-35546
Located at
Manchebo & Bucuti
Beach Resorts

Special in Aruba!!

- Complete Training Facilities with beginner's lessons
- Free introductory scuba course
- Choice of dives (wrecks, wall, reef, boat, beach, deep, drift)
- Free transportation to all dive sites
- 4, 5 and 9 day Hotel/Dive packages available
- Snorkel packages available for non-divers



Talk of the Town
Manchebo Beach
& Bucuti Beach
RESORT • HOTELS

ARUBA — DUTCH CARIBBEAN
1-800-223-1108

ARUBA PRO DIVE

- Small dive groups—no cattle drives here!
- Twice weekly night dives with no minimum.
- No cash deposits on equipment rental.
- Full range of activities for the non-diving companion.
- Dive boats designed for easy entry and exit.
- Certification courses from resort to assistant instructor.

ARUBA PRO DIVE-Ponton 88
Oranjestad, Aruba 011-2978-25520 • Fax 011-2978-37723

Because How You Get To Aruba Makes A Difference.

Direct/non-stop service daily from Miami,
four days weekly from
Atlanta. Easy connections
from most major cities.
Res. 1-800-327-7230.

ALM
ANTILLEAN AIRLINES
THE AIRLINE OF THE DUTCH CARIBBEAN



ARUBA THE BAHAMAS GRAND CAYMAN HAWAII

- Pampered diving from beginner to expert
- Top flight equipment, custom designed dive boats and expert PADI instructors.
- Catamaran cruises, wind-surfing, waverunners and more

Nestled between the beautiful
Americana Aruba and the
magnificent new Hyatt Regency.
Call toll free: 1-800-255-6425.



- NEW CUSTOM DIVE BOAT!
- ALL-INCLUSIVE DIVE SPECIALS INCLUDE UNLIMITED GUIDED DIVES AND FREE AIR
- BEGINNING/ADVANCED DIVE PROGRAMS
- BEST CHOICE OF DIVE SITES
- NIGHT DIVES SCHEDULED ON DEMAND
- DIVER CERTIFICATION — NAUI AND PADI
- CAMERA RENTAL — EQUIPMENT REPAIR
- HOTEL PACKAGE INCLUDES ALL MEALS, DRINKS AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

ADDRESS: ALFRED DE MUSSETSTRAAT 1, ORANJESTAD, ARUBA PHONE/FAX: 011-297-8-21596
FAX IN U.S.A.: 305-370-4578 CALL TOLL-FREE IN U.S.A. AND CANADA: 1-800-845-DIVE (3483)

ARUBA

Your pleasure is our only business



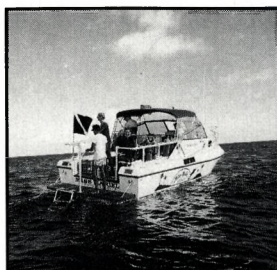
"OFF THE BEATEN PATH" DIVE DESTINATION

Experience diving at its finest . . . The southern atolls, barrier reef and cayes off the lower Belizean coastline offer an untainted mecca for divers to explore and preserve. We want to share our sanctuary with you!

*"Our island is your island . . .
Come and enjoy!"*

1-800-798-1558

Intl.: 011-501-5-22243/22759 • Fax: 011-501-5-22296



DIVERSIONS

(Continued from page 34)

MAKE WAY FOR BEQUIA

Bequia's (pronounced Bek-way) new airport opened this year at a cost of over 25 million US dollars. It took two years to complete, being virtually constructed out of the sea. The 3,600-foot runway provides lighted access for private and chartered aircraft. Service by Liat and Air Mustique is available from St. Vincents, Barbados and St. Lucia, all less than 30 minutes flight time away. Previously the island could be reached only by private boat or ferry from St. Vincents, nine miles to the north. Bequia is quiet, peaceful and non-commercialized with some of the Caribbean's finest diving.

In anticipation of more dive travelers finding this gem of an island, Dive Bequia has added a third dive boat to their fleet. The 32-foot vessel is equipped with everything 20 divers need for a day trip to the sites surrounding Bequia. For more information call (800) 851-DIVE.

DIVE '92

COZUMEL

IS WAITING FOR YOU

*The Best Bargain in Diving Today
(We specialize in groups. Call for best price)*

➤ Full Week Dive Package

➤ Mexican Hotel Tax

from

\$316

7 Nights
per person dbl. occ.

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION PLEASE CALL OR WRITE:



ISV
International Scuba Ventures
DIVE TOURS

7322 SW Freeway, Suite 140
Houston, TX 77074
(713) 772-DIVE
1-800-231-9707

BATTLING FOR BUSINESS

It wasn't so long ago that divers got only a blank stare from insurance companies when seeking a policy to cover the misadventures of a dive gone wrong. Today, it's a buyer's market as insurers battle for dive business. Divers Alert Network (DAN) offered the original diver's insurance. Now other dive organizations and regular insurance companies are offering policies for divers. PADI has just entered the market by sponsoring a dive accident policy for its students and certified divers. The PADI-sponsored policy was planned in cooperation with DAN so that DAN will benefit financially from the sales. For more information call Vicencia and Buckley Insurance Services at (800) 223-9998.

Divers Security Insurance of Boulder, Colorado has been offering policies for scuba enthusiasts since 1987. Although it has covered divers for as many years as DAN, the private company is not associated with any dive organization. Five areas of coverage can be mixed and matched to customize a policy to suit the clients activity level. The options include decompression-related injuries; non-decompression-related injuries such as ear problems, broken bones and bites related to either diving or snorkeling accidents; air ambulance and injuries from other recreational water sports or boating activities. There's also a life insurance policy for any covered injury. For more information call (800) 288-4810.

MOVING?

If you have changed your address recently and would like to continue receiving your subscription to SCUBA TIMES, fill in the appropriate spaces below for your new address and old zip code and mail to: *Scuba Times*, P.O. Box 40702, Nashville, TN 37204-9905. (Please allow at least 6 weeks).

Name _____
 (new) Address _____
 City _____
 State, Zip _____ (old) Zip _____

International Sport Divers Association introduced a policy as an added benefit to their membership last year. Available to certified divers in all 50 states and Canada, it offers worldwide coverage for all in-water accidents, decompression-related injuries, air evacuation, ambulances, hospitals and accidents on commercial dive boat transfers to and from dive sites regardless of fault or negligence. For more information call (800) 766-4940.

For life insurance only, Divers Life offers custom-designed plans with several national insurance carriers. While Divers Life is not affiliated with any dive organization, a portion of the proceeds go to benefit Ocean Watch, Reef Relief and other marine ecology groups. For more information call (818) 799-9532 in California or (407) 898-2527 in Florida.

COMPUTERS ARE DOWN

When is it good news that the computers are down? When you are in the Cayman Islands looking for a dive operation that offers computer-assisted diving.

According to Wayne Hasson, vice president of the Cayman Islands Watersports Operators Association, "Most all of our operators have multi-level computer diving on their agendas. CIWOA has geared itself to catering to customers who want to repeat Cayman year after year and keep seeing new sites. We provide whatever service divers want to keep them coming back.. All you have to do is contact your favorite operator for details."

TWO NEW FROM DAN

DAN's training department has produced an oxygen first aid educational video to accompany their oxygen provider and oxygen instructor courses. It highlights the basics of early dive accident recognition and emergency administration for injured divers. The video should not be substituted for actual training.

A mini oxygen unit is being introduced as a smaller, more portable system than the standard DAN Oxygen Unit. It includes all the same components except the jumbo D cylinder. Divers will need to make arrangements to have an oxygen cylinder at the dive site. The unit includes a multi-function regulator, demand inhalator valve with mask, pocket mask, non-rebreather mask and tubing, valve wrench/hand wheel and waterproof case. For more information contact DAN at (919) 684-2948, ext. 555.



NEWSPLASH

NOW OPEN

SLEEP & DIVE INN

Grand Cayman's Newest Budget Hotel

with

Professional Dive Operation

Snorkelers, divers and non-divers alike enjoy the extra special attention and care we take in making their visit to Cayman the most memorable experience ever.
Dive package prices begin as low as:

3 Nights

\$229⁰⁰ pp/ db. occ.

Prices include room tax, service and diving. Rates are valid April 21 - Dec. 22, 1992.

7 Nights

\$595⁰⁰ pp/ db. occ.



P.O. Box 1550
Morgan City, LA 70381

1-800-322-0321




\$60,000
Best Divers' Coverage

\$30,000
Best Non-Divers' Coverage

\$40,000
Life Insurance Coverage

The Diver's Accident Policy now covers watersports and boating accidents too



DIVER'S SECURITY INSURANCE

In a hurry?

Call today for immediate protection.

1-800-288-4810



TAKA II

AUSTRALIA'S FINEST

Great Barrier Reef Diving



Take TAKA II to the Cod Hole & Outer Barrier Reefs

4 day/3 night Trips. Depart every Tuesday and Saturday



"Adventure Diving for Certified Divers"

- U/W photo courses and hire
- Film processing on board
- Visits only the best dive sites
- Large, modern live aboard boat

TAKA II is owned and operated by Cairns Underwater Camera Centre

Quicksilver Diving Services

Day diving on the Outer Barrier Reef
Departing Cairns & Port Douglas daily



- Certified divers experience two spectacular dives at Agincourt Reef
- A large choice of sites to dive on from custom designed dive boat
- PADI 5 star training facility
— learn to dive/continuous education courses
- Introductory dives for the unqualified
- Many fabulous activities for the family and friends whilst you dive



Toll Free (800) 821-6670 in the US & Canada.
(800) 262-6670 (in California). 3770 Highland Ave. Suite 102. Manhattan Beach, Ca 90266
Please enquire about our Land/Air content packages!

Where Oceans Collide

Tierra del Fuego, the island at the southern tip of South America, is "Terra Incognita" on the world map of dive travel, nevertheless it offers great diving. Located at a latitude of 55 degrees south and only 700 miles from Antarctica, its chilly shores serve as the staging ground for many expeditions to the frozen continent, but only a handful of people dive here.

It is here at Cape Horn that the Pacific and Atlantic clash. Here the towering seas and relentlessly unpredictable weather have demanded respect, and often the lives, of sailors ever since Magellan discovered the area in 1520. Yet despite the area's well-deserved reputation for adverse climate, the archipelago often enjoys periods of calm during which its fascinating underwater terrain can be explored.

While the bonfire-making Indians who gave Tierra del Fuego or Fireland its name have long since disappeared, the sparsely populated island still very much remains a frontier. The northern lowlands border on the Strait of Magellan, which separates the island from the mainland,

and are used for shepherding. In the south, glacier-harboring mountains rise to more than 8,000 feet.

Here at the shore of the Beagle Channel, the island's largest town, Ushuaia, is situated on Argentinean territory (western Tierra del Fuego belongs to Chile). For reasons of both geography and logistics, Ushuaia is a logical base for a dive trip to the area. Ushuaia also is the home port of the *Tres Maria*, a 35-foot fishing vessel owned by Hector Monsalve. Hector, a diver with more than 20 years experience, served as a guide for the Cousteau team when they explored Cape Horn waters in 1986. His underwater photos of the area have been published in several South American magazines. Hector offers his boat for charter to divers who visit Ushuaia—about 15 of them per year. I took Hector up on his offer when I visited Tierra del Fuego in late March, a few days into the southern fall.

As we left port in the early morning, the sun was shining and the Beagle Channel was as flat as a mirror. My excitement about being able to log a dive in this remote place was heightened when Hector displayed the scuba equipment I was to use. While his only rental wetsuit happened to be near my size and in reasonable condition despite its advanced age, the fun started with the BC—there was none. A simple rope attached to the



Photos by Hector Monsalve

72-cubic-foot steel tank would serve as a backpack. My tendency to regard such items as necessary was thoroughly shattered when it came to the octopus and gauges. Once more they were nonexistent. The inquiry as to how the heck, without a gauge, I was supposed to know when I was out of air, produced an astonished smile and an obvious suggestion from Hector: if I could no longer breathe, I could safely assume that my air supply was used up. No doubt, I was headed for a true frontier dive experience.

While the Beagle Channel does hold numerous wrecks, we decided to dive some of the massive kelp beds at 30 to 40 feet for a good look at the marine life. Entering the 41-degree water and descending to the shell-littered sea floor, I noticed many shells scurrying for cover. They were homes for hermit crabs. Sea urchins and anemones were joined by sea stars and nudibranchs, all creatures familiar to a West Coast diver. Even though I didn't spot any fish, invertebrates and crustaceans were abundant. Gliding through the 40-foot visibility, I spied more exotic creatures. A patch of large yellow tube sponges sprouted from a rock. Krill twitched its way through the water. Close inspection of the kelp revealed a white spider crab clinging to a leaf with its spindly legs. Other creatures I simply could not identify. After a fascinating 45 minutes, breathing became difficult, indicating the end of my air supply.

After the dive, Hector prepared a meal of freshly caught king crab and some superb Argentinean steak. On the second dive at a different site, I once more enjoyed an abundance of marine life with no other divers within hundreds of miles to disturb the solitude of this great experience. ■

—Marco Flagg



How it feels to dive with Don Foster's Dive Cayman.



At Don Fosters, we appreciate that this may be the only vacation you take this year. That's why we go out of our way to make it really special.

We start our diving at 10am, so you can enjoy a leisurely breakfast or a stroll on the beach while we set up your gear and carry your tanks to the boat.



It's all part of Don Fosters policy to give you the best diving vacation possible. We've been diving Cayman for over 10 years now and we know the best sites. Our fleet of modern dive boats is second to none. With changing rooms, camera tables, ice chests, fresh water and easy entries and exits.



We offer you so much to do. After diving, you can rent a waverunner or go for a sail on a Hobie Cat. Non divers may enjoy a glass bottom boat trip on



our Sub-See Explorer or be adventurous and take a learn-to-dive course.

So when you're planning your dive vacation leave nothing to chance. For information on our great dive packages call Shirley toll-free at

1-800 83 DIVER
or **214-437-0789**



DON FOSTER'S
DIVE CAYMAN

Royal Palms Beach and Radisson Resort
locations on Seven Mile Beach.

GET MUCH MORE FROM THE
LEADER IN DIVE COMPUTERS

